FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 19 *26 January 1979*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Sends Message of Support to Khomeyni [VOP] A 1
Arab People's Congress Scores As-Sadat 'Suppression' A 1
PLO Executive Committee Meets on PNC, Salamah Findings [VOP] A 2
Journalists Detained in Connection With Salamah Death A 2
Baghdad VOP Comments on Presence of U.S. F-15's A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

UAE

UAE, British Petroleum Company Discuss Oil Cooperation C 1

YEMEN--PDRY

Yemeni Front Spokesman Reports Fighting in South Yemen C 1

EGYPT

Atherton Continues Talks With Egyptian Officials D 1
More on 25 Jan Meeting D 2
Khalil, Atherton Resume Talks D 2
As-Sadat Addresses Higher Police Council 25 Jan D 2
As-Sadat Plans Visit to U.S., Japan, FRG in Early Spring D 4

IRAQ

Saddam Husayn: Elections for Representatives To Be Held E 1
Minister Denies Agreements, Acknowledges Talks With Iran E 1
Transport, Communications, Tourism Agreements Signed With Mauritania E 1
Irrigation Minister Discusses Potable Water Supply to Kuwait E 2
Official Returns From Damascus, Talks on National Security E 2
RCC Member Grants Interview to Lebanese Magazine E 2
ATH-THAWRAH: USAF Squadrons Will Not Intimidate Arabs [19 Jan] E 3

JORDAN

Jordan To Attend Arab League Council Session in Somalia F 1
Royal Decrees Approve Transportation Agreements F 1
Agreement With Poland F 1
Agreement With Hungary F 1
Agreement With Libya F 1
Economic, Technical Cooperation Agreement Signed With Belgium F 2
Information Minister Leaves for Baghdad Conference F 2
ILO Director General Arrives in Amman F 3
Amman Paper Comments on Husayn Visit to Saudi Arabia F 3

LEBANON

Lebanese Nationalist Movement Issues Statement G 1
MENA Reports Intermittent Israeli Shelling of South G 1
Interior Minister Salman Comments on Situation in South G 1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Bouteflika Returns From Geneva Disarmament Conference I 1

LIBYA

Problems in Chad Attributed to 'Fanatical' Malloum I 1

MAURITANIA

Antigovernment Slogans Appear for First Time I 1

MOROCCO

Foreign Minister Leaves for France 24 Jan I 2
Minister Criticizes Saleck on Western Sahara Stand I 2

SUDAN

Egyptian-Sudanese Parliaments Issue Final Statement I 3
Joint Conference in October I 5
Egyptian Assembly Members Depart I 5

TUNISIA

TAP Reports Toure's 24 Jan Arrival Statement I 5
Joint Statement I 6

WESTERN SAHARA

Saharan Official Accuses Mauritania of 'Insincerity' I 7
POLISARIO Leader Speaks on Latest Offensive I 7
POLISARIO Spokesman Interviewed on Sahara Struggle I 8
[Madrid MUNDO OBRERO 20 Jan]

ISRAEL

Begin Says Peace Treaty Must Be 'Unconditional' N 1
MAFDAL Opposed to Peace Agreement, Autonomy Plan N 1
Minister Tamir Remarks on Peace Treaty, Oil N 1
Minister on Settlements Beyond Green Line N 2
Major Haddad on Situation in South Lebanon N 2
Weizman Tours Northern Settlements, Makes Statement N 3
Jerusalem Reports PLO Request for Cease-Fire N 4
Pro-Palestinian Manifesto Distributed in Haifa N 4
Security Forces Uncover Terrorist Group in Abu Dis N 4
Kfir Plane Deal With Austria Reportedly Approved N 5
DAVAR Comments on Atherton-Ben-Elisar Talks [26 Jan] N 6

IRAN

Bakhtiar Delivers Speech at Mossadeq's Grave R 1
Justice Ministry Abolishes Security Bureau R 1
Tehran Martial Law Officers Arrest 29 Armed Afghanis R 1
Opposing Factions Clash in Kermanshah, Ahvaz R 1
Government Bans Unauthorized Marches, Demonstrations R 2
Tehran Governor Bans Unauthorized Marches, Rallies R 2
Demonstration in Support of Constitution 25 Jan R 3
Resolution Issued R 5
26 Jan March in Support of Constitution Canceled R 6
Groups Gather To Welcome Khomeyni Despite Postponement R 6
Tehran Military Governor Denies Clashes Violent R 7
AFP Report R 7
AFP: 10 Killed R 8
BBC Correspondent's Report R 8
Tehran Governor's Communique on Arrest of Journalists R 9
Tehran Reports Bakhtiar's Letter to Khomeyni R 9
Paris Reporter Informs Bakhtiar of Khomeyni Decision R 11
Tehran Reports Khomeyni Delays Return to Iran R 11
Majlis Speaker Interviewed on Khomeyni's Return R 12
AFP: Yazdi Says Delay Is Bakhtiar 'Plot' R 12
Paris: Khomeyni Confirms Intention To Return to Iran R 13
Paris: Khomeyni To Depart for Iran 28 January R 13
PLO Envoy Conveys 'Arafat Message to Khomeyni R 13
Bazargan Gives Views on Meaning of 'Islamic Republic' R 14
[Paris LE FIGARO 24 Jan]
National Voice of Iran on Coup, Khomeyni, Assemblies R 15
Radio of Patriots on Generals' Plot, Khomeyni Return R 16
NEWSWEEK Interview With Tudeh Party's Kianuri Reported R 17
[Budapest NEPSZABADSAG 24 Jan]

SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

Exiles Report Russian Officers Killed by Insurgents S 1

INDIA

Four New Ministers of State Appointed S 1
Indian Naxalites Reunifying To Oppose USSR S 2
Curfew Imposed in Pondicherry Following Violence S 2

PAKISTAN

Malaysia's Hussein Holds Talks With Ziaul Haq S 2
Haq, Hussein Banquet Speeches S 3
Third Volume of White Paper on Bhutto Government Released S 4
Briefs: Saudi Loan to Pakistan S 4

'ARAFAT SENDS MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO KHOMEYNI

JN260643 Voice of Palestine [clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab world 0530 GMT 26 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, has sent the following message to Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni:

Brother militant Ayatollah Imam Ruhollah al-Musawi Khomeyni: May peace be with you. The just cause of the Iranian people and their great revolution was thoroughly considered by the Palestine National Council [PNC] during its recent session, particularly as we consider this cause and your revolution as our own.

The PNC discussed the situation in Iran and developments in the great Iranian people's glorious revolution. The PNC reconfirmed its support for our militant people in Iran, under your firm and wise leadership. The PNC praised your decisive stands on the Palestinian cause and our people's struggle against the Zionist enemy. The PNC wished a comprehensive victory to your people, so that you will be able to end the injustice, despotism and persecution practiced against your great people and thus employ the capabilities of Iran and its heroic fraternal people in service to the struggle against imperialism and Zionism, in order to bring about the liberation of Palestine and holy Jerusalem.

The Palestinian people and their armed revolution firmly stand with your fraternal Muslim people and their victorious revolution, your sincere and noble revolution struggling against despotism, persecution and imperialism in Iran. Iran, under your leadership, brother militant, would give a new strategic and practical depth to the revolution of our militant Palestinian people.

Brother militant: Once again on behalf of the PNC, the Palestinian people and their strugglers, we repeat our vow to continue the joint struggle and the one revolution, to end the injustice and persecution practiced against the fraternal people of Iran and to struggle together against imperialism for the liberation of holy Jerusalem and Palestine. We will continue our march together until victory. Revolution until victory.

[Signed] Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander of the Palestinian Revolution Forces.

ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS SCORES AS-SADAT 'SUPPRESSION'

LD261022 Tripoli JANA in English 0906 GMT 26 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 26 January, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress issued a statement condemning the suppressive measures practised by the regime of the defeated Egyptian president against the progressive and national forces in Egypt.

It was pointed out in the statement that the severe campaigns waged by the defeated Egyptian president against the Egyptian Arab people who reject the capitulatory solutions came at a time when the shah's regime had collapsed due to the strikes of the heroic Iranian people for liberation from the arbitrary imperial regime and the American domination of their destiny.

The statement added that the escalation and progress of liberation movement spreads apprehension within the hireling regimes, the foremost of which is the defeated Egyptian regime.

The statement said there is no doubt that the criminal alliance between the reactionary Arab regimes on the one hand and the world imperialist forces on the other is to reconstruct its plans in order to confront the Arab liberation movement and the escalating social movements.

The statement affirmed that the suppressive acts practised by the defeated president of the Egyptian regime against the Egyptian people are part of the imperialist-reactionary plot executed for his masters' interests in Washington and his masters of world Zionism and Arab reaction.

The statement pointed out that some of the methods practised against the Egyptian people are expanding the suppressive regime and spreading terrorist forces even in the furthest Egyptian village. Other methods used are the raids carried out against the offices of the democratic, political organizations and arresting their members, as was the case of the arrest of the well-known journalist Husayn 'Abd ar-Razaq, member of the General-Secretariat of the National Progressive Unionist Party because of the party's opposition to the puppet shah's visit and against the suspicious coordination between the shah who fled from the wrath of the masses and the defeated Egyptian regime.

The statement indicated that the arrest of Husayn 'Abd ar-Razaq by the Egyptian authorities is one of the many reflections which express the dictatorship and treason of the regime in Egypt. For besides its restriction to freedom of opinion it also violates the enforced laws which prevent the arrest of a human being without a legal evidence. At the end of its statement, the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress affirmed condemnation to this crininal act which aims at striking the nationalist and progressive forces who reject the capitulatory and defeatist policy of the defeated president. The statement urged the national and progressive forces in the Arab world and the world as a whole to support the Egyptian people and their national movement against the policy of suppression, terror, and treason practised by the defeated Egyptian president.

PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS ON PNC, SALAMAH FINDINGS

JN251546 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab world 1515 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee held a meeting in Beirut today under its Chairman Abu 'Ammar, general commander of the forces of the Palestinian revolution. The committee discussed the results of the 14th session of the Palestine National Council named after President Houari Boumediene.

The committee also discussed the issue of the assassination of brother fighter 'Ali Hasan Salamah and the latest reports of the committee investigation the assassination.

JOURNALISTS DETAINED IN CONNECTION WITH SALAMAH DEATH

JN260856 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 26 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 26 January--Palestinian revolution security forces arrested five foreign journalists during the funeral ceremony of Abu Hasan Salamah, official in charge of special operations, on Wednesday.

The five detained journalists include one American, two British, and two Dutch. The Dutch and British journalists were found to possess Israeli press cards and their passports indicated that they have long resided in Israel.

The investigation is being carried out by Abu al-Hawl, the Fatah official in charge of security. The American journalist was released yesterday, but the others are still being held. The United Kingdom and the Netherlands embassies are trying to seek their release through the United Nations.

BAGHDAD VOP COMMENTS ON PRESENCE OF U.S. F-15'S

JN252020 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1825 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Pentagon spokesman Tom Ross said yesterday that the squadron of F-15's left its base in the guld and would fly in groups to the United States.

Yesterday Sudan announced that it would receive those U.S. planes which will conduct flight displays in Sudanese airspace. We do not know how long the planes will be in Sudan. Pentagon circles, however, said another Arab state will be visited, after which the planes will leave for Spain.

Most of the affected states stated that they wanted to see how fast, how effective and how powerful the planes are. This view is false and deceptive because they could solve this problem by inspecting the planes in Washington. Pentagon circles themselves have not hidden the truth. They simply declared that the presence of these planes has been at the request of those countries in order to display the U.S. presence in view of the new developments in the region. In other words, the display is to warn all forces which might contemplate striking at U.S. interests.

Therefore, what is at issue is not the planes but the forces which represent imperialism and cooperation with it at the expense of the Arab masses and their battle against the Zionist presence. The planes' display in Arab airspace is not only an aggressive provocation but an affirmation that imperialism has become so worried, terrified and alarmed at any possible change in the region by the masses that they have employed the policy of gunboats and military airfields and have started to display their fighters in the region.

We say that these acrobatics and threats will not stop the revolution or the wheels of history. The lessons taught to U.S. imperialism by the struggling peoples everywhere are the best examples, beginning with Latin America, through Vietnam and ending with the Arab nation, which has formulated its decision to reject the Camp David agreements and to continue the path of struggle through strengthening revolutionary ties.

UAE

UAE, BRITISH PETROLEUM COMPANY DISCUSSES OIL COOPERATION

JN251334 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1235 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpt] Al-'Ayn, 25 January--Shaykj Tanhmun ibn Muhammad, representative of the ruler in the eastern area and chairman of the Board of Directors of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, praised the cooperation existing between the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company and the British Petroleum Company during a meeting with Sir David Steel, president of British Petroleum, in Al-'Ayn city today.

David Steel said after the meeting that Britain is seeking to cover its need for petroleum energy through imports in the hope that its future daily production from North Sea oil will reach 2 million barrels. He said current British production amounts to 1.2 million barrels per day. He explained that his company is presently sustaining a daily loss of 1 million barrels of crude oil in Iran due to the incidents occurring there.

YEMEN--PDRY

YEMENI FRONT SPOKESMAN REPORTS FIGHTING IN SOUTH YEMEN

NC251500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 January--A spokesman of the National Front for Southern Yemen said today that the fighting taking place between the opposition Yemeni unity forces and the forces of the communist regime in Aden this week extended to Bayhan, Ad-Dali', Al-Hawashib and Mukayris. The spokesman added that the opposition forces succeeded in occupying several areas in Bayhan, including Al-Bulayq Fortress.

The spokesman said that the Ad-Dali' area has been the scene of violent fighting over the past 2 days and this has compelled the government to declare a state of emergency in Ad-Dali' and nearby villages.

He added that the reports received by the front about the battles in Ad-Dali' confirm that the government forces suffered over 40 casualties and that the injured have been moved by helicopter to Aden. The Yemeni unity forces have destroyed the government's gun emplacements in Ad-Dali' and cut off the electric power in the city.

The spokesman said that fierce battles are taking place in Mukayris and As-Subayhi areas and that the communist forces have been reinforced with a group of Cuban soldiers following a meeting held by the Political Bureau of the Unified Socialist Party in Aden the night before last to discuss the position of the communist forces on the battlefronts.

ATHERTON CONTINUES TALKS WITH EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS

More on 25 Jan Meeting

NC251607 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1430 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 January--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today met with U.S. roving Ambassador in the Middle East Alfred Atherton. They discussed the Middle East situation in light of Atherton's visit to Israel and the discussions he held there. The meeting began at 1130 today. It was attended on the Egyptian side by Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz, and on the U.S. side by U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Hermann Eilts and U.S. State Department legal adviser Hansell.

After his 3-hour meeting with Dr Butrus Ghali, Alfred Atherton said that he briefed the Egyptian side on the outcome of his discussions in Israel. He said: We discussed the three issues in the peace treaty on which there is disagreement. The aim of my visit is to solve these issues. I have conveyed the Israeli views on these issues and have heard the Egyptian viewpoint. He added that he would meet with Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil to complete the discussion.

Asked how long he would stay in Cairo, Atherton said: No time has been set for my stay here. I cannot answer this question. Asked whether he conveyed to Egypt only the U.S. viewpoint or the Israeli viewpoint as well, Atherton said: I have conveyed the Israeli views to Egypt, and I will convey the Egyptian views to Israel. He added that he would conduct a round of talks in Israel on one of three points under dispute; in relation to the other two points, he has conveyed the Israeli views on them and will hear the Egyptian views.

Asked whether the Egyptian and U.S. stands are identical on the subject, Atherton said: I believe that our stand has been clear since U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance visited the area. Since these were bilateral talks, it is not appropriate that I comment on them.

On his meeting with President as-Sadat, Atherton said that nothing has yet been decided regarding his meeting with President as-Sadat.

MENA has learned that at today's meeting, the discussions dealt only with the Egyptian-Israeli draft treaty and did not deal with the complementary agreement on the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The discussions also dealt with the provisions of Articles IV and VI. Atherton conveyed in detail the Israeli position on the joint Egyptian-U.S. stand.

MENA has learned that the Egyptian side to the Ghali-Atherton talks today confined itself to listening and did not express Egypt's views to Atherton. MENA has also learned that Egypt's firm stand is its adherence and commitment to the collective defense pact. No treaty should affect Egypt's Arab commitments, and Egypt should be totally free to define what constitutes an aggression and will not accept any outside interpretation in accordance with Article 51 of the UN Charter. [Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 1830 GMT on 25 January adds that "a responsible source at the Foreign Ministry today affirmed that Egypt's stand is clear. He said that Egypt adhered to the U.S. interpretation of Article VI and to its Arab commitments giving them priority over all others. He added that Egypt is absolutely free to define its Arab commitments, that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty should not restrict Egypt and that Egypt is committed to the collective defense pact."]

MENA has also learned that the current talks are dealing with only 5 percent of the problem as a whole. The remaining 95 percent, relating to the problem of linking the treaty with the future of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the settlements, diplomatic relations and oil, will be discussed at another level at other meetings.

MENA has learned that the only positive element in the situation is the joint desire of the Egyptian and Israeli sides not to break off the negotiations.

Ghali: Talks 'Encouraging'

NC251631 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1547 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 January--Asked by correspondents for his view of today's talks with Alfred Atherton, the U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East, and whether they were encouraging, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali said: Everything I hear from Atherton is always encouraging.

Khalil, Atherton Resume Talks

NC261109 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 26 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 26 January--At noon today, Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil met with U.S. roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton to complete the round of talks Atherton began yesterday with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali on a draft peace treaty, and also to find out Egypt's view on some of the points that are under discussion.

The meeting was attended on the Egyptian side by Dr Butrus Ghali, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ala-Khayrat and Foreign Ministry legal adviser Sami al-Masri.

The U.S. side included U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Hermann Eilts, U.S. State Department legal adviser Herbert Hansell and one of Atherton's sides, David Korn.

Before the meeting Dr Khalil held a 1-hour meeting with Dr Ghali and Dr Usamah al-Baz. They discussed the results of the discussions that took place yesterday between Dr Ghali and Alfred Atherton.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES HIGHER POLICE COUNCIL 25 JAN

NC252105 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1947 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 25 January--President Anwar as-Sadat has affirmed that Egypt stands by its position and its insistence on the linkage between Egyptian and Palestinian rights. It also stands by its position that it will not give Israel any privilaged position in its relations with Egypt, and that the conclusion of the peace agreement must include Gaza and the West Bank.

He said that 1979 will see many changes throughout the world. He affirmed that Egypt has a firm and strong regime with stable policies based on firm principles.

In his meeting with the Higher Police Council, which was held following the conclusion of today's military parade to mark Police Day, President as-Sadat said that peace became an established fact after the two Camp David agreements were signed, and that the police must prepare themselves to assume their responsibilities in an unconventional way, in the new societies and in Sinai. They must develop their services to assist in the good process of life and production, in protecting oil and mining installations, and in insuring all services along with the security services in Sinai.

The special session of the Higher Police Council, which was chaired by President Anwar as-Sadat, the president of the republic and the supreme commander of the police force, was also attended by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, presidential office chief Hasan Kamil and Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il.

The president began his speech by congratulating the council and the police force on Police Day. He expressed great appreciation and admiration for the exhibitions he saw, which he said indicated that the police officials were aware of their responsibilities.

The president said that while talking to the police commanders, he must also explain the dimensions of the internal and external situations because the police are closely linked with the progress and aims of society by virtue of their position.

On the domestic situation, the president said that the aim in 1979 is to carry out a comprehensive process of building at home in the various fields. His excellency said that the Egyptian family is the basis and the root, and that the parties are only a means to exercise democracy and provide an opportunity for various opinions to be heard. His excellency expressed pride that he is the head of this family before being the leader of the National Party or the president of the republic.

The president added: Discipline must not be confined to the street. It must involve the conduct of the Egyptian man everywhere and in all positions to help the process of rebuilding. He also said that the concept of discipline in the Egyptian family does not permit anything that is shameful to the family, and that a difference in opinion must not reach the point where entire Egyptian family was attacked or harmed.

The president then spoke about the responsibilities of the police. He praised their efforts and the honorable results they have achieved. His excellency said that their work is basic and vital and that the building and reconstruct on plans can only be implemented if the security and safety of all citizens are guaranteed. His excellency affirmed that all, old and young, are equal in the eyes of the law, and that there would not be either suppression of freedoms or deviation from the law. He added that practicing the freedom of opinion and the counteropinion is guaranteed under sound democracy, and that every opposition opinion that pushes forward and serves the national march must be welcomed while the hostile opinion that seeks to destroy and undermine the march must be rejected.

The president emphasized that the police are committed to providing protection and security for the freedom of the society. He added that among its foremost aims, the state seeks to rebuild the basic structure of the various utilities, provide food security and houses for the broad masses of the people, especially to the factions with limited incomes, and to rebuild all the service utilities, which have deteriorated in the past 20 years.

The president affirmed that the future places new and basic tasks on the shoulders of the police, foremost of which is the unconventional role they must play in carrying out the development of Sinai, building new societies and supporting the system of local government. Beginning now, the police must start methodically drawing up their plans to be able to tackle these new responsibilities.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the president said attention must be given to the affairs of all police employees. He said that all means of stability must be insured for them, that social and medical services should be strengthened, and that needs of the police hospital should be met. He also called for studies aimed at drawing up a plan to provide the necessary buildings and housing units for the police in the various areas within the framework of the state's plan for tackling the entire problem of housing.

Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il delivered a speech at the beginning of the meeting in which he expressed thanks to the president of the republic for the concern he has shown by participating with the police force in its celebration of Police Day, despite his urgent tasks and businesses.

He also expressed the thanks and appreciation of the police force to the president for presenting awards to the members of the Higher Police Council and a number of officers and policemen in appreciation of their efforts in the service of public security.

The interior minister affirmed that the police would continue to be loyal and committed and to believe in the leadership of the president. He said they are aware of all their national and pan-Arab responsibilities and have prepared themselves to fully shoulder these duties in light of the instructions and aims defined for the national march by President Anwar as-Sadat.

AS-SADAT PLANS VISIT TO U.S., JAPAN, FRG IN EARLY SPRING

NC252245 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2232 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 25 January--Tomorrow's issue of AL-AHRAM reports that President Anwar as-Sadat will make a trip to the United States, Japan and West Germany in early spring to hold talks with officials in these three industrial states on how they can share in a comprehensive plan similar to the Marshall Plan to rebuild Egypt and develop it economically.

SADDAM HUSAYN: ELECTIONS FOR REPRESENTATIVES TO BE HELD

JN251828 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1750 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jan--Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn has declared that the Revolution Command Council has approved the holding of general elections for all the Iraqi people in order to elect the Central Council of the People's Representatives.

Saddam Husayn explained that the Revolution Command Council had requested a number of comrades to prepare a study on this subject and that it is almost completed.

Saddam Husayn said that the study will be submitted to the Revolution Command Council for discussion and approval after which it will become general law determining the time necessary to begin the election of the people's representatives in a genuine democratic way and not according to any other formula.

Saddam Husayn explained that the Central Council of the People's Representatives will be one of the representational constitutional institutions in Iraq and will participate in the process of decision making and building of the state. Saddam Husayn made these statements in the meeting held by the Executive Bureau of the General Federation of Labor Trade Unions here today to discuss the report prepared by the bureau on the 15th session of the federation's Central Council which will begin on Saturday.

MINISTER DENIES AGREEMENTS, ACKNOWLEDGES TALKS WITH IRAN

LD251711 Madrid ABC in Spanish Jan 20 79 p 15 LD

[Unattributed report: "No Secret Agreements Between Iraq and Iran"]

[Text] The union of Iraq and Syria will be a natural occurrence for many reasons, but above all because they are two regions of the same nation, Iraqi Trade Minister Hasan 'Ali declared yesterday, moments before ending his visit to Spain.

Unity, he pointed out, is not a signed paper but a social, cultural, economic and historical practice. Moreover, Hasan 'Ali expressed optimism about the work which has been carried out in Baghdad and Damascus respectively, to complete the first steps toward political, economic and cultural agreements which would mark the start of the merger between both Arab nations.

He also stated, with respect to the Iranian crisis, that after the withdrawal of Reza Pahlavi, events will occur which will have profound repercussions in the Arab world. Finally, with reference to a news item published by ABC, he stated that Iraq and Iran have never signed secret agreements and he reiterated that Iraqi diplomacy would not resort to such practices in its international relations, although he refrained from commenting on the possibility that talks were held between military leaders from both countries weeks before the shah's fall.

TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS, TOURISM COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH MAURITANIA

JN212128 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1935 GMT 21 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Jan--Iraq and Mauritania signed two agreements this evening on joint cooperation in the fields of transport, posts, communications and tourism.

The agreements were signed for the Iraqi side by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and minister of public works and housing, and for the Mauritanian side by Col Viah Ould Mayouf, minister of transport, posts and telecommunications, tourism and local crafts.

The two agreements provide for exchange of expertise and official visits, and for coordination of the two countries' stands in meetings dealing with regional and international fields. Iraq will also train Mauritanian cadres at Iraqi technical centers and institutes and will conduct technical and economic studies for several Mauritanian projects.

The two sides have agreed to operate Iraqi airline flights to the Mauritanian capital. It was also decided to form joint committees which will hold periodic meetings in the two countries' capitals to follow up on implementation of the two agreements.

IRRIGATION MINISTER DISCUSSES POTABLE WATER SUPPLY TO KUWAIT

JN251107 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 25 Jan--'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud, minister of irrigation, has stated that a joint Iraqi-Kuwaiti committee is currently conducting studies and drafting designs for supplying Kuwait with potable water from Shatt Al 'Arab.

In a statement made here today, the minister said that the studies and designs for this project will specify the site for pumping water from Shatt Al 'Arab through two waterpipes to be installed near the Safwan border area. He added that studies prepared late last year provide for supplying Kuwait with 350 million gallons of potable water daily. He added that this amount would meet Kuwait's water requirements until the year 2000.

The minister of irrigation said that Iraq is ready to supply the Arab Gulf states with potable water from Shatt Al 'Arab and to establish joint projects in this area with these countries.

OFFICIAL RETURNS FROM DAMASCUS TALKS ON NATIONAL SECURITY

JN192117 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 19 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jan--Sa'dun Shakir, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party regional command member, returned here this evening from Damascus. During his visit, Shakir held talks on security cooperation and coordination between Iraq and Syria.

The talks resulted in the establishment of a unified national security office between the two countries and the formulation of a concept of future security activities in conformity with the Joint National Action Charter.

RCC MEMBER GRANTS INTERVIEW TO LEBANESE MAGAZINE

JN221031 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT 22 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpts] Beirut, 22 Jan--Revolution Command Council [RCC] member Tariq 'Aziz has stressed that Iraq will respect the will of the Iranian people. He added that Iraq will abide by the legitimate choice of the Iranian people and deal with it in a natural, normal way.

In statement to the weekly MONDAY MORNING magazine, published here today, the RCC member emphasized that Iraq is concerned with establishing good relations with Iran. Iraq reaffirms the principle of nonintervention in each others' domestic affairs.

'Aziz added that the forthcoming Iraqi-Syrian meeting will not take place just to announce constitutional steps between the two countries. It will also deal with a comprehensive and minute reassessment of the various steps so far achieved on the road to unity during the past 3 months and a program for the next stage will be laid down.

'Aziz stressed that the basic objective of unity is to liberate Palestine. Therefore, it is necessary and normal to have a strong relationship between the Iraqi and Syrian command and the PLO and that there should exist among them a joint, long-term action program.

On the situation in Lebanon, 'Aziz stressed that the unity between Iraq and Syria will reflect positively on the situation in Lebanon.

ATH-THAWRAH: USAF SQUADRONS WILL NOT INTIMIDATE ARABS

LD251057 Baghdad ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 19 Jan 79 p 3 LD

[Hani 'Abbas 'Isa article: "Will Arab Egypt Accept the Status of a U.S. Base?"]

[Excerpts] Press sources report that President as-Sadat and President Jimmy Carter have agreed that squadrons of U.S. warplanes will visit Egyptian air bases and that U.S. naval ships will pay similar visits to Egyptian ports in an attempt to intimidate the Arab people and prevent our Arab people in Egypt and its armed forces from carrying out an attempted coup against the present regime.

The talk about the United States' sending a squadron or several squadrons to the Arab area will not intimidate the Arab people and its struggling forces. Although this is a well-known and proven fact and the United States knows it better than anybody else, it remains incomprehensible to those who do not believe in peoples and their ability in confrontation and wrongly believe that a show of force would terrorize the struggling peoples.

The clear fact nobody can overlook is that the fighting and revolutionary qualities of any people cannot be given or granted by any foreign quarter; rather, they are the fruit of the continuous struggle which the people genuinely wage through the ages. When a people elects to follow such a course it is not prepared to retreat or to submit to foreign plans.

The visit by U.S. squadrons to the area surprises nobody because it is a normal sequence in the chain of U.S. interventions and movements in the area. It was not long ago that the United States dispatched some of its operational forces from Western Europe to Cyprus and placed them in a maximum state of alert. This happened only 3 months ago following the historic development in the Arab situation resulting from the signing of the Joint Charter for National Action between Iraq and Syria and the convening of the Baghdad summit.

These U.S. moves are of special significance and raise several questions regarding their purpose and timing.

They prove that the United States is no longer certain of preserving its interests and influence in the area as a result of the major and rapid changes taking place in either the Arab field or the international field. This is despite the fact that the United States still maintains forces and bases in the area, particularly in the Arab Gulf.

JORDAN TO ATTEND ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL SESSION IN SOMALIA

JN251646 Amman JNA in Arabic 1535 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jan--Jordan has informed the Arab League General Secretariat of its approval of the next session of the Arab League Council in Mogadiscio at the invitation of the Somali Government.

The Arab League General Secretariat has requested member states to submit proposals they want placed on the agenda of the council's session, scheduled to be held on 24 March.

ROYAL DECREES APPROVE TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENTS

Agreement With Poland

JN252104 Amman JNA in Arabic 1540 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 25 Jan--A royal decree has been issued approving the land transport agreement concluded between Jordan and Poland in Warsaw last October. The aim of the agreement is to activate the movement of passengers and goods by land between the two countries.

Agreement With Hungary

JN251611 Amman JNA in Arabic 1525 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 25 Jan--A royal decree has been issued approving the agreement for the international transport of passengers and goods by land between Jordan and Hungary. The agreement was signed between the two countries in Budapest last year.

The aim of the agreement is to facilitate the transport of passengers and goods by land between the two countries and across their territory in transit.

The agreement regulates the transport of passengers by regular lines as well as the transport of tourists and goods. The agreement also regulates the procedures and terms for granting transport licenses.

According to the agreement, a joint committee of representatives of the two countries will be formed to follow up the proper implementation of the agreement and to tackle any difficulties in the way of its implementation. The committee will hold annual meetings for this purpose.

Agreement With Libya

JN251621 Amman JNA in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 25 Jan--A royal decree has been issued approving the Cabinet decision to ratify the agreement and the memo of understanding signed between Jordan and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The agreement was signed by the two countries in Amman in October 1978.

According to the agreement, each will grant the right to operate regular flights between the two countries.

According to the memo of understanding, the airlines of the two countries will be exempt from all fees and duties resulting from their activities in the two countries.

It will be recalled that the air transport activity between Jordan and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah expanded greatly last year. The number of passengers flown from Benghazi to Amman last September reached 7,787 passengers, and the number of passengers transported from Amman to Benghazi was 8,163.

ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BELGIUM

JN241558 Amman JNA in Arabic 1535 GMT 24 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Amman, 24 Jan--An exchange of the instruments of ratification of the economic and technical cooperation agreement between Jordan and Belgium took place at the National Planning Council this morning.

It will be recalled that His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan had signed the agreement during his visit to Belgium at the end of 1976.

The agreement provides for the promotion of cooperation in the trade, economic, industrial, mining, scientific, agricultural and technical fields between the two countries. It also provides for the establishment of joint ventures, exchange of expertise and technicians, the organization of training courses, and the formation of a joint working committee to submit suggestions.

The instruments of ratification were exchanged for the Jordanian Government by Dr Hanna 'Awdah, president of the National Planning Council, and for the Belgian Government by Hubert Beduwe, Belgian ambassador in Amman.

INFORMATION MINISTER LEAVES FOR BAGHDAD CONFERENCE

JN250651 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Jan 79 JN

[Text] 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of information, left Amman this evening for Baghdad to head Jordan's delegation to the Arab information ministers' conference, due to be held there.

Abu 'Awdah made a statement in which he said: The invitation came at the initiative of Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, Iraqi information minister, as an extension of the Baghdad summit conference called for by Iraq following the issuance of the Camp David resolutions. He added that the conference will discuss the clarification of an Arab information policy for the international arena dealing with various aspects of the Palestinian cause from the Arab standpoint, beginning with the Arab unanimity in rejecting the Camp David accords and their results, since these accords contradict the Arab right to Palestine as well as the relevant international resolutions.

Jordan's delegation to the conference consists of the radio station director, the director of publications and the director of the minister's office.

The delegation was seen off by the Information Ministry under secretary, several directors of information departments and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL ARRIVES IN AMMAN

JN221543 Amman JNA in Arabic 1518 GMT 22 Jan 79 JN

[Excerpt] Amman, 22 Jan--ILO Director General Francis Blanchard arrived in Amman from Damascus today at the head of a delegation on a 3-day visit to Jordan. Mr Blanchard said that his visit, which comes at the invitation of the Jordanian Government, is for the purpose of discussing ILO activities, particularly in the field of training, in cooperation with the UN Development Program.

AMMAN PAPER COMMENTS ON HUSAYN VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

JN220838 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 22 Jan 79 JN

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "the Husayn-Khalid meeting," AD-DUSTUR writes that ever since the conclusion of the Baghdad summit, Jordan, represented by His Majesty King Husayn, has been continuously working at more than one level to translate the Baghdad summit resolutions into a wide-scale movement aimed at explaining and interpreting the Arab position. These same efforts are also aimed at mobilizing world support for the Arab viewpoint, whose rejection of the Camp David agreements for well-known reasons does not mean rejection of the principle of a just and lasting peace to the Middle East conflict with the participation of all the parties.

AD-DUSTUR adds that His Majesty King Husayn's recent visits to the FRG, Italy, the United Kingdom and the Vatican took place within this framework, and that his majesty's visit to Syria last week and his coming visit to Saudi Arabia also fall within this framework.

By virtue of its position within the framework of pan-Arab action and the special responsibilities it is shouldering toward the Palestinian cause and confrontation with the Israeli enemy, Jordan is compelled to take initiative in holding contacts and consultations with the brothers to build an Arab steadfast position capable of confronting all the changes and eventualities from a position of strength. This will permit us to make and control events, and not merely react to them.

The latest developments the area has witnessed makes it incumbent upon the Arabs to intensify leadership meetings, to coordinate positions, and to formulate a unified strategy which will avoid eventual dangers and confront them on all levels.

LEBANESE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT ISSUES STATEMENT

JN251041 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 25 Jan 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 25 January--The Lebanese Nationalist Movement has stated that in order to defend southern Lebanon, it has become necessary to wage a decisive battle for the adoption of a decision on restoring sovereignty over border areas and on purging the army of those who are dealing with the enemy.

In a political statement issued following its weekly meeting yesterday, the Central Political Council of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement stressed that the future of Lebanon's internal situation has become linked to this crucial issue. The statement adds that the enemy's escalation of operations in southern Lebanon shows that he has decided to increase direct intervention in order to insure success for the plan of increased rightwing presence and the establishment of a rightwing state in each of the areas that were invaded by the Zionist enemy approximately 1 year ago. This would be Israel's reply to the steadfastness shown by the citizens of southern Lebanon and to the foundering of the rightwing militias in completing the tasks with which they have been entrusted. The statement emphasized the need for all Lebanese forces concerned about the future of southern Lebanon and the unity of Lebanon and its national components to take an initiative in order to prevent a policy that leads to giving up the homeland. The Lebanese Nationalist Movement also hailed the steadfastness of the citizens in southern Lebanon in the face of the Zionist war machine, and called for strengthening this steadfastness on both the Arab and international levels.

MENA REPORTS INTERMITTENT ISRAELI SHELLING OF SOUTH

NC251455 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1438 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Beirut, 25 January--According to reports from southern Lebanon, some villages in An-Nabatiyah District were today subjected to intermittent Israeli shelling despite the cease-fire agreement of 2 days ago. The shelling has prevented the village inhabitants from burying the victims of the Israeli attacks. The unstable situation has also led to more people leaving for more secure areas. Hundreds of evacuees have occupied buildings and schools in Sidon.

Meanwhile, Palestinian sources have told MENA that the Palestinian command has informed the UN forces command in the south that it will abide by the cease-fire and will not answer the Israeli shelling. The commander of the UN emergency forces, General Erskine, is due to go to Beirut in the next 2 days to meet with Lebanese Defense Minister and Army Commander Gen Victor Khuri and resume the discussion of the question of the army's deployment in the south in implementation of new Security Council Resolution 444.

INTERIOR MINISTER SALMAN COMMENTS ON SITUATION IN SOUTH

NC251440 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman said this afternoon that as a result of his continuous contacts with the governor of the south, he has received information indicating that the Israeli shelling has stopped, the security situation has greatly improved and the evacuees have begun returning to their villages. Minister Salman said that this is absolute proof that the southerners are attached to their lands and that they refuse to abandon their lands and are determined to stand fast no matter what.

ALGERIA

BOUTEFLIKA RETURNS FROM GENEVA DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

LD252338 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Brother Abdelaziz Bouteflika, member of the Council of the Revolution and foreign minister, returned to Algiers this afternoon after having chaired in Geneva the opening session of the UN Disarmament Committee held at the foreign ministers level.

LIBYA

PROBLEMS IN CHAD ATTRIBUTED TO 'FANATICAL' MALLOUM

LD251708 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] The current critical situation in Chad, typified by crippling economic difficulties and numerous strikes which are about to bring the country to an economic standstill, along with the danger of the country being torn apart, is the sole and direct responsibility of Felix Malloum, the fanatical fascist who seized power in the country in order to use it to implement later on a plan to reimpose colonial domination on the African Continent and to impose colonial military bases on Chadian territory--bases which colonialism uses to strike at the forces of revolution and liberation in Chad itself and on the African Continent in general.

News from Chad speaks of an explosive situation within the present leadership which, if it is not resolved--and it will not be except through Felix Malloum's downfall--will lead to a bloody conflict and terrible massacres.whose victims will be new generations of the Chadian people, who are living in poverty and under the colonial yoke and who suffer from the disgraceful fanatical measures carried out by Felix Malloum's hired gang of colonialism. The deteriorating situation suffered by the Chadian masses has reached the point of overriding gravity; this crisis has befallen the oppressed people of Chad only since Felix Malloum seized power and appointed himself a fascist dictator, implementing the colonial plot against the masses in Chad and against the African Continent and the movements of liberation and progress on the continent. He opened up the country to colonial military bases, imagining that [words indistinct] are able to protect his agent regime and to immobilize the revolutionary movement in Chad and on the African Continent.

MAURITANIA

ANTIGOVERNMENT SLOGANS APPEAR FOR FIRST TIME

PA251551 Paris AFP in French 1147 GMT 25 Jan 79 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, 25 Jan (AFP)--Slogans hostile to the Mauritanian Government have appeared on certain walls and buildings in Nouakchott for the first time since the coup d'etat on 10 July 1978.

Certain slogans compare the Military Committee of National Recovery (MCNR) to the former Mauritanian People's Party (PPM), which was dissolved following the overthrow of President Moktar Ould Daddah ("The MCNR is Just Like the PPM"), while others protest against the presence of Moroccan troops in Mauritania ("Moroccans Go Home").

However, most of the writings, ("Revalorization of the South" "Down with Racism," "Equality of Culture") reflect the concern of the black African community in Mauritania (at least one-third of the total population) over the policy of Arabization of the country proposed by Moorish officials.

In November 1978, during an interview with the domestic press, Education Minister Seck Mame Ndiack (of black African ancestry) advocated the retention of the bilingual system (Arab and French) "in the country's future life." These statements, which implicity question the Arabization program adopted by the authorities, caused a serious backlash.

Interior Minister Maj Jiddou Ould Saleck replied by recalling "the attachment of the Mauritanian people as a whole to Arab-Islamic culture" while reaffirming the need to develop "the study of other national languages." A commission charged with studying "cultural problems" in Mauritania is scheduled to be established in December.

MOROCCO

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR FRANCE 24 JAN

LD251424 Rabat MAP in English 1208 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Casablanca, Jan. 23 (MAP)--M'hamed Boucetta, the Moroccan foreign minister, left here Wednesday for Paris. In a declaration to newsmen, the minister stated that his visit coincides with the preparation of Edgar Faure's investiture in the French Academy. Boucetta stressed the friendly relations which link King Hassan of Morocco to Edgar Faure, and the latter's role in the strengthening of the Moroccan-French relations.

The minister also declared that he will meet Jean Francois-Poncet, the French foreign minister, to examine bilateral relations.

MINISTER CRITICIZES SALECK ON WESTERN SAHARA STAND

PA241307 Paris AFP in English 1234 GMT 24 Jan 79 PA

[Excerpts] Madrid, Jan 24 (AFP)--A Moroccan minister today criticized Mauritanian head of state Mustapha Ould Mohammed Saleck for going too far in his search for peace in the Western Sahara, which Morocco and Mauritanian partitioned under agreement with Spain in 1975. Moroccan Information Minister [of State] Abdelhadi Boutaleb, in an interview in the Spanish daily newspaper EL PAIS, said Col Saleck had also gone too far in his negotiations with the POLISARIO Front, the Saharan liberation movement. The minister said, however, that all Col Saleck's efforts were doomed to failure because the Algerians will not allow the POLISARIO Front the chance of replying freely to the Mauritanians. Immediately after the coup [ousting Moktar Ould Daddah] then Moroccan Information Minister Mohamed Khattabi said Rabat hoped the new military authorities in Nouakchott did not intend to end the military alliance with Morocco.

He warned that should the current turmoil lead to the replacement of Morocco's contingent of 8,000 to 9,000 men stationed in Mauritania, by troops of a neighbouring country such as Algeria, there would be great risk of conflict. (?He) added: Morocco could never allow Algeria to use Mauritania to encircle it.

SUDAN

EGYPTIAN-SUDANESE PARLIAMENTS ISSUE FINAL STATEMENT

NC252140 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2025 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Khartoum, 25 January--The second parliamentary conference of the people of the Nile Valley has appealed to the leaders and peoples of the Arab nation to unite their stand and consolidate their ranks by eliminating their differences, leaving behind their dispute and by mobilizing all their efforts and resources for the sake of a peace which would liberate the occupied Arab territory, restore the usurped rights to their people and repulse all the attempts of Zionist expansion.

In this regard, the conference praised the policy of decisiveness which Presidents Anwar as-Sadat and Ja'far Numayri have expounded for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East area.

The conference stressed the determination of the two fraternal peoples in Egypt and Sudan to continue the struggle in order to retrieve every inch of the occupied Arab territory and restore the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state. In this regard, the conference expressed its pride in Egypt and its leader for refusing a separate solution and partial settlement. It also hailed the steadfastness of the Egyptian people in the battle of peace in continuation of their steadfastness and sacrifices in the battlefield.

In the final statement it issued tonight after 6 days of meetings, the conference expressed its full satisfaction with what has been achieved and with the confident scientific plans which the joint ministerial committees charted along the road of integration between Egypt and Sudan in various fields. In this regard, the conference urged all concerned organs to abide by the directives contained in the speeches of Presidents As-Sadat and Numayri and by the contents of the report of the higher committee on the consolidation of the pillars of the integration experiment and the firm establishment of their aims.

On the African level, the conference reaffirmed the insistence of Egypt and Sudan on continuing to support and back the African liberation movements in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa, which are waging the battles of honor and freedom for the sake of the future of their people. The conference also stressed the right of the African peoples to oppose and resist foreign interference in the African Continent. It advocated continued negotiations in settling differences to strengthen the unity of these people and avert the dangers of interference and the ambitions of the great states.

In conclusion, the conference expressed its satisfaction with the nonalined policy pursued by the two fraternal countries and which seeks to avoid the conflicts of the great states and political and milita., axes.

The text of the statement follows:

In the name of God, with God's will, and in implementation of the will of the two fraternal peoples in Egypt and Sudan; in loyalty to the history of their common struggle for freedom and unity of the two countries, the second conference of the assembly of the two peoples was held in the heroic city of Omdurman 20-25 January.

This conference was held within the framework of the program for political action and economic integration which our two peoples have chosen as a charter that expresses their agreement to and consensus on safeguarding the freedom of the people of the Nile Valley, protecting their independence and achieving their interests. It also expresses their consensus on the experiment of cooperation and integration serving as a guide and path for the unity and progress of the Arab nation and as an example that will strengthen Africa's determination to achieve unity and cohesion.

Having heard at the beginning of its work the speeches of the fraternal presidents, Ja'far Numayri and Muhammad Ansar as-Sadat, the conference expresses its pride in and commitment to their affirmation of comprehensive agreement on a unified aim and destiny and on the concurrent will of the two peoples for the realization of their common interests as a course that will insure strength, unity and progress for them and for the people of the Arab nation. While it praises the decisive policy outlined by the two presidents on the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Arab area, the conference reaffirms the determination of the fraternal peoples in Egypt and Sudan to continue the struggle to retrieve every inch of occupied Arab territory and restore the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state.

In this regard, the conference expresses its pride in the decision taken by Egypt and As-Sadat to reject a separate solution and partial settlement. The conference hails the steadfastness of the people of Egypt in the battle for peace as a continuation of the steadfastness and sacrifices in the battlefield. The conference agreed with splendid unanimity on the inevitability of Arab solidarity and on its determination to continue the battle of peace. From here we appeal to the leaders and peoples of the Arab nation to unite and close ranks by putting aside all differences and disputes and by utilizing all efforts and resources for peace that would liberate the occupied land and restore the usurped rights and frustrate the Zionist expanisionist attempts and Israeli aggression.

The conference expresses its solidarity and support for the African peoples who are struggling to end imperialism and racial discrimination and to remove the rule of the white minorities, which violated the dignity of Africa and usurped the legitimate right of its peoples to self-determination and independence.

The conference reaffirms the determination of Egypt and Sudan to continue their support and aid to the African liberation movements in Zimbabwe, Namibia, and South Africa while waging the battles of honor and freedom for the future of their peoples and on behalf of the whole continent, and while commiting themselves in the struggle to the achievement of stability, freedom and unity.

In this regard, the conference asserts the right of the peoples of Africa to resist foreign intervention in the African Continent and in the affairs of its states, and calls on these states to follow the method of negotiations in settling their differences in order to strengthen their unity and avoid the dangers of foreign intervention and the ambitions of the big powers.

The African policy in the two fraternal countries continues to be based on these principles and to serve as a general framework for Arab solidarity with the African peoples.

This solidarity is dictated by common principles and interests and the common fate of peoples who are seeking justice, peace and progress. Through the general deliberations and the committeee discussion and resolutions the conference expressed its full satisfaction with the nonalined policy which the political leadership in the fraternal countries is pursuing and which aims at maintaining the national and pan-Arab interests and at keeping these interests away from big power conflicts and political and military axes and for the establishment of a world in which political and economic relations are governed by principles of justice and equality.

This joint conference was held to provide further opportunities for success for the integration program and projects between the two fraternal countries. While it praises the report of the joint higher ministerial committee, which was presented by Ar-Rashid at-Tahir and Dr Mustafa Khalil, the conference expresses its satisfaction with the achievements already made and the scientific and steady steps made by the joint ministerial committees on political, economic and social integration. The conference calls on all the responsible departments to pursue the implementation of the integration programs and policies and to strictly abide by the guidance contained in the speeches of the two presidents, the resolutions and recommendations of this conference, and the contents of the report of the higher committee in order to consolidate the bases of the integration experiment and its aims and to avoid any weakness or shortcomings which may affect them.

The conference expresses the pride of its members in the spirit of brotherhood and amity which dominated the objective and rational debate among the brothers. This spirit stems from the everlasting ties between both fraternal peoples and from the common feeling of the responsibilities of the one destiny [words indistinct].

Joint Conference in October

NC252233 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2035 GMT 25 Jan 79 NC

[Text] Khartoum, 25 January--The second joint conference of the Nile Valley People's Assemblies decided at the conclusion of its meetings this evening to hold the third joint conference in Cairo in October.

Egyptian Assembly Members Depart

JN261042 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT Jan 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 26 January--Members of the Egyptian People's Assembly left Khartoum this morning following participation in the meetings of the Nile Valley People's Assembly, which concluded here yesterday.

TUNISIA

TAP REPORTS TOURE'S 24 JAN ARRIVAL STATEMENT

LD251714 Tunis TAP in English 1545 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, Jan 25 (TAP)--"President Bourguiba is an elder brother but also a friend we highly regard because of the decisive role he played in the history of Tunis. We consider this role as a tremendous contribution to the whole African continent decolonistation", President Ahmed Sekou Toure of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea declared on his arrival Wednesday at Tunis Carthage Airport for a two-day-official visit in Tunisia.

The Guinean head of state said that this visit comes "within the framework of the will for cooperation and friendship that the Guinean people share with the Tunisians. Those feelings have in fact always marked the relations between the Tunisian and Guinean Governments, particularly between the two countries' presidents."

President Sekou Toure added: "We came not only to reaffirm the friendship, the esteem and the confidence that we have always had for the great leader of the Neo-Destour but also to solidify our will for cooperation with the brave people of Tunisia".

The presidential jet landed at Tunis-Carthage Airport at 1300. President Sekou Toure was welcomed by Hedi Nouira, prime minister, the president of the National Assembly and the members of the cabinet.

After the two national anthems were performed, the Guinean president reviewed an honor guard. Later on, the Guinean head of state conferred with President Bourguiba in Carthage Presidential Palace.

The Tunisian-Guinean talks began at 1730 in the government palace (Al-Kasbah Tunis) under the chairmanship of Hedi Nouira, Tunisian premier, and Ahmed Sekou Toure, Guinean president. The talks were on current problems in Africa and the world. The Tunisian and Guinean officials who attended the meeting also examined the possibilities of reinforcing the cooperation between Tunisia and Guinea.

Before leaving Tunis today at 1000, President Sekou Toure declared: "We are very satisfied with the talks. They o, en new prospects for the economic and cultural cooperation necessary for the development of our two countries, to prepare for the achievement of African unity".

Joint Statement

LD251716 Tunis TAP in English 1600 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, Jan 25 (TAP)--A Tunisian-Guinean joint statement was published at the end of President Sekou Toure's visit to Tunisia.

"At President Bourguiba's invitation" the statement says "His Excellency President Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of Guinea, paid a friendly visit to Tunisia on January 24 and 25, 1979. President Sekou Toure was received by President Bourguiba, and had official talks with the Tunisian delegation led by Hedi Nouira, prime minister".

"The two delegations decided to reinforce bilateral cooperation and extend it to all fields. Delegations will be shortly exchanged in order to carry out those recommendations agreed upon".

Tunisia and Guinea are trying to achieve an African unity based on a loyal progressive and open cooperation which respects the sovereignty of each member country.

"Tunisia and Guinea", the statement adds, "will still give a full support to nations which fight colonialism and racism in Palestine and South Africa and declare themselves convinced that putting an end to colonialism is an essential condition to the security and prosperity of Africa and the Arab world."

"Speaking of the international conjuncture, the two delegations expressed their concern about the rising number of conflicts in the Third World and stressed the necessity to look for pacific solutions to conflicts which are based on international charts. "The Guinean delegation praised the progress achieved by Tunisia on the cultural, social, economic and political levels. The Tunisian delegation said they appreciate expressed its the Guinean development carried out under the courageous leadership of President Ahmed Sekou Toure". [sentence as received]

WESTERN SAHARA

SAHARAN OFFICIAL ACCUSES MAURITANIA OF 'INSINCERITY'

LD161948 Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1600 GMT 16 Jan 79 LD/EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--The POLISARIO Front of the Sahara Democratic Republic has unveiled what it terms an international conspiracy designed to force the people of Western Sahara into accepting a small state within their illegally occupied territory. The front has also accused Mauritania of insincerity over its widely publicized pursuit of peace with the fighting masses of Western Sahara and said the new military-ruled country was indeed at the head of the conspiracy. Addressing a news conference in Dar es Salaam today, the foreign minister of the Sahara Democratic Republic, Ndugu Ibrahim, said the idea to create a ministate for the people of Western Sahara was helped by Senegalese President Senghor last June. He said: From that time negotiations between the new regime and the POLISARIO Front started, only to learn later that the Mauritanian Government was at the head of an international conspiracy against the interests of the people of Western Sahara. However, Ndugu Ibrahim said, any attempt to deter the people of Western Sahara from their protracted armed struggle for liberation would be defeated. He said the POLISARIO Front had liberated a large area of the occupied territory and it is intensifying the struggle until victory is achieved. The POLISARIO Front is fighting for the liberation of Western Sahara, which was ceded to Morocco and Mauritania by Spain in 1976.

POLISARIO LEADER SPEAKS ON LATEST OFFENSIVE

LD252143 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] In the wake of the great victories of the Saharan insurgents in the Hourari Boumediene offensive, a tour of the liberated territories for international and national reporters was arranged, during which various types of ammunition captured by the fighters of the Saharan Army and 53 Moroccan prisoners were displayed. On this occasion, Mr Bechir Ouali, deputy secretary general of the POLISARIO, held a press conference. First, he recalled the appreciation and pride of the Saharan people and their fighters for the role played by the late militant Houari Boumediene in support of just causes and the right of peoples struggling for self-determination. He also stressed the determination of the Saharan people to obtain their independence and to impose a military solution should the invaders persist in their stubborness. He underlined that the operations mounted by the Saharan fighters in the Houari Boumediene offensive covered all the positions of the enemy, which have been shelled more than once.

POLISARIO SPOKESMAN INTERVIEWED ON SAHARA STRUGGLE

LD251031 Madrid MUNDO OBRERO in Spanish 20 Jan 79 p 6 LD

[Unattributed interview with POLISARIO International Relations Department member Ya'qub: "'Houari Boumediene' Offensive Under Way"--date and place not given]

[Text] Only 3 days ago, the Saharan People's Liberation Army inflicted a grave defeat on the Moroccan occupation troops 60 km north of El Aaiun. The war in the Sahara is continuing. The POLISARIO's victories mark its most outstanding dates. Meanwhile, the Saharan people are waging an equally important bloodless battle in the field of diplomacy. Ya'qub of the POLISARIO's International Relations Department has talked with MUNDO OBRERO about these topics, making it clear that the Saharan people's confidence in their imminent victory is based on real facts.

In the battle, which was fought 17 January in the locality of Lamsayal, the Saharan People's Liberation Army inflicted 375 Moroccan casualties, taking 45 troops prisoner and capturing from the enemy over 50 tons of ammunition, 17 jeeps, guns, mortars, a tank and other types of equipment.

Ya'qub: The "Houari Boumediene" offensive started on the same day--17 January--taking place principally in northern Sahara and southern Morocco. It is the most important offensive of the year, and could be conclusive.

MUNDO OBRERO: Can a large-scale Moroccan offensive be expected in view of this major defeat?

Ya'qub: The Moroccans have launched four "cleanup operations" over the last 3 years, deploying 5,000 troops and providing air cover in each case. So far, they have had no success, and it is not envisaged that they will achieve it now.

MUNDO OBRERO: A short while ago, Mauritanian President Ould Saleck made the POLISARIO a peace proposal. What is the present state of the negotiations?

Ya'qub: The talks with Mauritania are continuing, but we accept no dialog outside the framework of the resolutions of our fourth congress: the territorial integrity of the Sahara with recognized borders, the withdrawal of the occupation forces, and the restoration to the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] of the Saharan people's right to self-determination. Mauritania has been making statements since 10 June. We are awaiting actual deeds, which have not occurred so far.

MUNDO OBRERO: Why is Mauritania proposing peace?

Ya'qub: Since Ould Salek's coup there has been a desire to restore normalcy in the country, and this is hampered by the war. The Mauritanian people want the conflict to be resolved. But we have always said that the basic problem is Moroccan expansionism, which is seeking to annex northern Senegal, the Sahara, southern Algeria and, of course, Mauritania. The fact is that, but for the POLISARIO, Mauritania would have long been a Moroccan province. Peace in Mauritania depends on the expulsion of the 8,000 Moroccan troops on its territory.

MUNDO OBRERO: On the diplomatic front, what are the SDAR's prospects?

Ya'qub: Since the collapse of Moroccan propaganda we have been carrying out a diplomatic offensive directed at all the African countries. We are expecting more of these countries to recognize the SDAR, and they will soon be holding a summit on the Saharan question.

BEGIN SAYS PEACE TREATY MUST BE 'UNCONDITIONAL'

TA251615 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin was today the guest of the Thirteenth Conference of the Farmers Association. The prime minister congratulated the members of the association on the occasion. On the political issue the prime minister noted that the peace treaty must be unconditional and that in our region, which is in a state of turmoil, Israel is the only stable factor. Our correspondent Dan Golan reports the prime minister's remarks at the conference.

[Begin--begin reporting] We hereby announce that the peace treaty with Egypt must be unconditional since only then will its contents be real. We aspire to a real and true peace treaty. The peace treaty with the strongest and biggest of the Arab countries is surely not yet a complete vision of peace. We have other neighbors around us who, meeting in Baghdad, have established the center of hostility against Israel. We must follow their preparations and be aware that the danger will not entirely disappear even after signing a peace treaty with Egypt. Neither us nor the Egyptians, nor the Americans can now bring Syria to the negotiating table. We cannot bring Jordan either, for all its dependence on the United States.

[Golan] This is what Prime Minister Begin said about the peace negotiations. On the situation in the entire region, the prime minister said:

[Begin] Special events have in the meantime occurred in the region. The entire region is in a state of turmoil. It is not stable. I needn't list all the countries, one by one, that have fallen under totalitarianism. Only those who had freedom and lost it can appreciate it. Thus we have seen and heard over the last few days from unfortunate people to whom we gave shelter in Israel, since we remembered our own brethren. A state of revolutionary developments prevails in the region now, and I hope that all elements in the free world, of which we are an integral part, will now understand what we have tried to explain to them for so many years: If there is a single truly stable element, a friend and an ally of the free countries, its name is Israel. [end recording]

MAFDAL OPPOSED TO PEACE AGREEMENT, AUTONOMY PLAN

TA251915 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[Text] MAFDAL circles opposed to the proposed peace agreement held their first meeting in Tel Aviv this evening. Opening the meeting, MK Rabbi Hayim Druckman said that despite the continuing peace talks, not everything was lost and that struggle should be waged against the autonomy plan and the peace agreement.

MINISTER TAMIR REMARKS ON PEACE TREATY, OIL

TA251654 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] I am convinced that any further pressure on Israel regarding the matter of peace will lead to a dictate, not a peace agreement and to surrender, not peace. This was said today by Minister Shmu'el Tamir who was the guest of the Israeli-American Chamber of Commerce. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar brings us some of Minister Tamir's remarks:

[Tamir--begin recording] The peace treaty we are trying to reach cannot be a dictate of unilateral withdrawal for Israel. President as-Sadat has recently taken the liberty of saying something to the effect that Israel lost the Yom Kippur War; the victor dictates the process and dates of the latter's unilateral, ultimate withdrawal. But this is not so. If this is so, this is not peace and this peace has no future.

[Shahar] Minister Tamir stressed that the four new issues raised by Egypt, including changes in Article IV and Article VI of the peace treaty, empty the peace treaty of its meaning. The concessions Israel made at Camp David were far-reaching.

[Tamir] In light of the international situation, I believe that those were justified concessions. However, I am also convinced that we cannot make any more concessions if we want to insure Israel's future. There is a point when one gets up and says: If you exert further pressure on me, it transforms the agreement into dictate, peace into surrender.

[Shahar] Shmu'el Tamir said that now, in view of the new situation created after the events in Iran, Israel must ask for a U.S. promise regarding regular oil supplies to Israel.

[Tamir] After the crisis in Iran, we must insist that the issue of regular and sufficient oil supplies to Israel will be guaranteed before the treaty is signed. I spoke with economists in the United States who said that they couldn't understand us. They said: Now when the problem of oil supplies is most acute, you will be the only international element to give up the abundance of oil it possesses and remain without a drop of your own oil. [end recording]

MINISTER ON SETTLEMENTS BEYOND GREEN LINE

TA251820 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1715 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpt] Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon said today that if farmers want to establish settlements beyond the green line, it will be possible to establish settlements immediately. Sharon was speaking at Beyt Ziyoney America [ZOA House] in Tel Aviv at the Thirteenth Conference of the Farmers' Association. The minister only participated in part of the discussion since he was unable to attend in the morning. He apologized for this, saying that he was delayed by an extraordinary meeting of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs. Replying to criticism to the effect that farmers do not receive sufficient encouragement for settlement, Minister Sharon said that he proposed to the association five to seven sites where immediate settlements could be set up. "They wanted to settle here and I said settle there (beyond the green line)," he said. "Today, it is possible to settle everywhere. Set up nuclei and you will be able to settle next month," the agriculture minister said. He explained that it is the government that determines where a settlement is needed and when.

MAJOR HADDAD ON SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON

TA251148 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Jan 79 pp 1, 7 TA

[By Yehezqel Hame'iri]

[Excerpt] Had Israel not responded to the UN appeal to cease fire against the terrorists, "the terrorist deployment in southern Lebanon would have collapsed within 2 or 3 days," Christian commander Maj Sa'd Haddad stated.

In an interview, Major Haddad claimed yesterday that it was a serious mistake on Israel's part to respond to the UNIFIL request for a cease-fire. According to him, the terrorists were begging for a cease-fire in the wake of the heavy artillery barrage they had endured from the IDF.

"The terrorists were about to collapse totally after desertions from their positions began. Among the deserters were many soldiers from the Lebanese Arab Army units who are cooperating with the terrorists in the region. In the wake of the heavy pressure of the IDF shelling they began to collapse and, as usual when they are in difficult positions, they pleaded for a cease-fire. For some reason Israel responded, thus preventing a total collapse," Haddad claimed.

According to him, he has also learned that the villages in the locations where the terrorists are present have also begun to rise up after having suffered from the Israeli shelling. "Had firing continued for another few days these villagers would have thrown the terrorists out of the whole of the south and would not let any terrorist near them or set up a mortar or cannon in the villages or in the fields. Those villagers who provided shelter for the terrorists north of the Litani would also no longer have allowed terrorists to deploy in the area. It is a pity that the IDF was tempted to cease firing just before the total breakdown of the terrorists and of those who aid them."

When Haddad was asked why his militia forces had responded to the cease-fire proposal, he answered that his forces had only reacted to terrorist shelling and their fire power was insufficient to totally defeat the terrorists.

"Now the terrorists will again be quiet for a while until they recover, refortify their positions, bring more men, arms and ammunition and again begin firing at their convenience, having redeployed for this," Haddad believes.

WEIZMAN TOURS NORTHERN SETTLEMENTS, MAKES STATEMENT

TA251548 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Excerpt] I believe that now, after the IDF's shelling of Lebanon, it is reasonable to expect that calm will prevail on the northern border. This is what Defense Minister Weizman said to Qiryat Shemona residents this morning. The minister today toured the settlements of the finger of Galilee. He was accompanied by his wife, Deputy Chief of Staff Maj Gen Yequti'el Adam and commander of the northern command, Maj Gen Avigdor Ben-Gal. Our military correspondent Tal Ravina accompanied Minister Weizman during his tour.

[Weizman--begin recording] It is a pity that this happened, but it was undoubtedly good to hear that the IDF did its job. It was positive, and the mayor and town appreciate it. This is the IDF's job. The IDF is the army of the people, and I hope that we will not have to respond again in this way--fiercely to shell the other side in order to prevent harm's being done to our civilians. I also accept what the mayor said: namely, that it is not enough to prevent killing in Qiryat Shemona. One should also help them earn a living, which means employment, industry and so on and so forth. Also I, in my capacity as the defense minister, will try to do everything in my power and will always try to bring the matter of extending help to Qiryat Shemona to the government's attention.

[Ravina] When the defense minister was asked to express his opinion on the PLO statement about escalation, he said:

[Weizman] Regrettably it is my belief that the anti-Fatah war is not over. It is not finished in a single action. We are trying to prevent terrorist activity; we are trying to hit the Fatah in order to, first and foremost, keep the Fatah members away from the country, so we may finally have peace and quiet like that on other fronts with real states. The Fatah is not a state after all and its base is in Lebanon. So, I would not want to react to the PLO's statement. I suppose they are not sitting quietly, but I believe that there is a good chance that the situation will calm down. [end recording]

JERUSALEM REPORTS PLO REQUEST FOR CEASE-FIRE

TA252115 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpt] Our correspondent 'Amos Karmeli has learned that the cease-fire achieved on the northern border today was effected only after the PLO asked for it through the United Nations. Our correspondent reports this in the wake of the visit made today to the northern settlements by Defense Minister Weizman. The PLO asked for the cease-fire after heavy artillery fire by the IDF. The IDF artillery fire followed the terrorists' attack with Katyusha rockets on the northern settlements.

PRO-PALESTINIAN MANIFESTO DISTRIBUTED IN HAIFA

TA251845 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1620 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Haifa, 25 Jan--A pro-Palestinian manifesto written in both Hebrew and Arabic was distributed recently at Haifa University by an organization calling itself the "Workers' Alliance (Avantguard)."

The manifesto said that in relation to what it defines as "the attacks of the Begin government on basic democratic rights," encouragement should be drawn from the achievements of the masses in Iran. The manifesto also states that a large and permanent framework, open to every militant organization member, is required to enable the members "to fight together against the oppression in a democratic way."

The writers of the manifesto say that the example of the Iranian masses should be adopted. Those masses show every day they will not put up with any government that does not satisfy their basic aspirations for political freedom, reasonable standards of living and freedom from imperialism.

The manifesto further states that the workers' alliance is struggling for peace in a democratic and unified Palestine and for a government of workers and farmers. The organization calls for a united struggle against the [Israeli] occupation, the release of political prisoners and for the cessation of political detentions in the West Bank.

SECURITY FORCES UNCOVER TERRORIST GROUP IN ABU DIS

TA260524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Jan 79 TA

[Text] The security forces uncovered a Fatah group in the village of Abu Dis. This group acted in the Jerusalem area and its members are suspected of having carried out 10 terrorist acts, most of them in the capital.

Among other things, the terrorist act about 7 months ago in the Mahane Yehuda market in which 2 people were killed and many others injured is attributed to them. The IDF spokesman reported that yesterday the security forces imposed a curfew on the village of Abu Dis and several suspects were arrested in the searches. In addition, a large amount of ammunition and arms was also discovered.

KFIR PLANE DEAL WITH AUSTRIA REPORTEDLY APPROVED

TA251310 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[Text] First the news of the intention to purchase Israel's own war plane, the Kfir. The story we've received is that Austria is going through with the deal. Further details from Lucien Meisels from Vienna.

[Meisels--begin recording] In a dramatic, but for him not entirely unusual about turn, the Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky last night confirmed that Austria would acquire 24 Kfir jet fighter aircraft. The Kfir deal controversy had been pending for a long time, but it was apparently clinched against vigorous American, French and Swedish competition by the decision to assemble the planes in Austria. Kreisky had originally been cool towards the Kfir mainly for reasons of foreign policy, but with an election in the offing on 6 May this year, he could not resist the argument that firstly, the Kfir was the plane which the Austrian Air Force wanted; secondly, that it was a plane which Austria could afford; and finally, that by assembling the planes in Austria new jobs were actually being created for Austria at a time of rising unemployment.

The production of the planes is due to take place in Wiener Neustadt, an industrial town about 50 km south of Vienna, the site of a disused plane and machine factory, the (Rex) works and a former military airfield. In charge will be a consortium of the Israel aircraft industries, Austrian Airlines and Montana Airlines, a private Austrian carrier. No government funds will be involved initially, in an investment of about $40 million, but the government has guaranteed to buy the first 24 planes.

There is still some confusion about the details of the contract which, according to the Austrian Defense Minister Otto Roesch, is due to be signed in a few days' time. Kreisky, obviously trying to minimize the political implications, claimed that the plane would essentially be an Austrian aircraft, although certain components would be imported. Israel's contribution would be confined mainly to providing the know-how. The plane will probably be called the (Rex), after the (Rex) works.

On the other hand, the defense spokesman of the small rightist Freedom Party, Helmuth (Josek), maintained that most of the parts would be flown in from Israel in Israeli cargo aircraft. (Josek) said that his party had absolutely no objection to the deal. On the other hand, the major opposition party, the Austrian People's Party appeared somewhat piqued, not because it had anything against Israel or the Kfir, but because it had not been informed in advance of the deal. This is Lucien Meisels speaking from Vienna. [end recording]

And here in Israel, the Israel Aircraft Industries has declined to comment on the report you've just heard.

DAVAR COMMENTS ON ATHERTON-BEN-ELISAR TALKS

TA260718 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 26 Jan 79 p 17 TA

[Daniyel Bloch commentary: "Stumbling Blocks"]

[Text] It is difficult to assume that any great progress occurred this week in anything related to the signing of a peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. But we can say that we did come closer to signing a cease-fire agreement between Israel and the United States. The talks between the U.S. delegation headed by Ambassador Roy Atherton and the Israeli delegation headed by Dr Eliyahu Ben-Elisar were held in a comfortable, friendly atmosphere, without the tension and urgency which characterized the last round of talks in December. The United States has apparently learned a lesson from those days and has understood that it must make some concessions to Israel's views and move toward it in order to soothe its fears.

The United States was unable to accept Israel's demand to cancel the letter of interpretation it sent to Egypt, but Ambassador Atherton did initiate a proposal for an explanatory document from the United States to Israel, which will define and reduce the damage done by that interpretation which, in fact, gave Egypt permission, in accordance with the pan-Arab defense pact, to rush to the aid of any Arab country attacked by Israel. The Atherton initiative is intended to remove many thorns from the previous interpretation and to restrict Egypt in the extreme and impossible event of Israel's initiating a war against any Arab country.

The clarifications he proposed are intended to determine that the very fact of the IDF presence in the territories or actions for the prevention of terror or terrorism or retaliatiory actions are not to be regarded as warlike acts. The first formulation of the clarification proposed by Atherton and his aides in the delegation was accepted almost at once by the Israeli delegation, but it was actually the State Department in Washington which demanded other formulations and this was why there was the prolonged bargaining which went back, at its end, almost to the original formulation. Most of the arguments were over terms and the formulation of a few words. Israeli circles are filled with admiration at the way in which Roy Atherton conducted the contacts. The Israeli side is particularly complimentary about the important contribution made by the expert on international law, Prof Ruth Lapidot, who was part of the delegation.

The prolongation of the talks with Atherton caused a certain amount of nervousness among political circles and especially when, during the first stages, many ministers opposed the very fact of the move represented by a U.S. explanatory document coming as an addition to the letter of interpretation to which Israel was opposed, and not instead of it. Even Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan was most critical of the move. His mood improved only just before the Cabinet session on Wednesday, which almost welcomed a fait accompli.

Nevertheless, political sources evaluate that the foreign minister knows that we still have not overcome the real difficulties on the road to achieving a peace treaty between us and Egypt and that, with the hawkish trend of some of the Cabinet ministers, it is not yet clear how the peace process will continue and what will be the end result. There are commentators who formed the impression that Moshe Dayan's mood is one indicative of the last days of government and he has recently been making moves in the direction of the Labor Party. On Wednesday he spoke with Yitzhaq Rabin in the Knesset snack bar and he has put out signals which have been heard in several directions.

Even if, as a result of the round of Atherton talks in Jerusalem and Cairo, an agreement is achieved on the two issues which have been the main points of the deliberations up to now--the question of the review of the security arrangements in Sinai and the peace treaty's priority over Egypt's other contractual commitments in the Arab world--large, heavy stumbling blocks still remain and all of them are around the question of the foundation of the autonomy, the target date and the linkage between putting the agreement with Egypt into effect and the implementation of the autonomy. Atherton and the legal adviser, Herbert Hansell, only discussed one article disputed by Israel and Egypt and one interpretation disputed between Israel and the United States. It is possible that the progress on both these issues was essential for the very fact of renewing the momentum, but this can only be seen as the modest start to the beginning of salvation.

Even if the difficulties are smoothed out in Jerusalem, we still will have to wait for the Egyptian reaction. And even if it is positive, the bargaining over the main issues on the agenda will only then begin. The Egyptians will undoubtedly want to "drag out" the deliberations, just as they were prolonged in Jerusalem, and there are those who are saying that their nervousness has increased because of the long time Atherton spent in Jerusalem. The political correspondents have already been joking that Minister of the Interior Dr Burg should be asked to issue an order expelling Atherton from the country...

Some ministers, with Minister of Justice Shmu'el Tamir at their head, think that the bilateral issues between us and the United States should be agreed upon before the next stage in the talks with Egypt, a policy the Rabin government followed during the negotiations over the interim agreement with Egypt in the summer of 1975. Such issues as the supply of oil, financial aid, military procurements and so on should be agreed upon, with the agreement with the United States determining the amount of possible Israeli flexibility on issues still remaining for discussion with Egypt.

The government is still faced with a mine: The decision to hold a debate on the nature of the autonomy before signing the peace treaty with Egypt. Such a debate, if it is held in the atmosphere prevailing today in the coalition government, could damage the actual chances for a peace treaty with Egypt since the only advantage of the autonomy, at this stage, is the vagueness surrounding it, with each side being able to interpret it as they wish.

Therefore, despite the fact that the agreements achieved in the talks with Atherton are not to be despised and even ministers known for their aggressiveness think that the document of interpretation is a good one and, after all, they did authorize the prime minister and the foreign minister, through general agreement, to approve it at the end of the final clarifications between the two delegations. [sentence as published] At any rate, this achievement should not be regarded as being anything other than the beginning of a road mainly filled with mines and obstacles.

The experience of the past regarding the way the government functions in all spheres, including the peace process, does not lay any foundations for exaggerated optimism. It is true that over the last 2 days governmental circles are telling us again, after a long interval, that a peace treaty will indeed be signed between Israel and Egypt, but the chances of winning the lottery are still better than the chances of a peace treaty's being achieved in the near future. Anybody who follows the workings of the government feels a sort of atmosphere of the "last days of Pompeii." It is clear that an atmosphere of hysteria and panic has gripped the Likud, which is now occupied in a "witch-hunt" to locate the guilty among the "MAPAI'ist elite." Thus we are witnessing an atmosphere of dismissals and attempts at dismissals, from the wild attack against the governor of the bank of Israel, Arnon Gafni, via the intention of replacing the director general of the Ministry of Industry, 'Amos Mar-Hayim, and through the attempt to dismiss the director general of the broadcasting authority, Yitzhaq Livni. We have here a combination of a hunt for scapegoats with a last despairing attempt to take control of key posts before it is too late.

Practically no one has any illusions. The current government is indeed faced with the collapse of its hopes in many spheres. The only lifebelt left to it is achieving a peace treaty with Egypt. Will it put out its hand and grasp that lifebelt? This week it appears that there is a trend toward this in the government, but disciplined observers still remain fairly skeptical.

BAKHTIAR DELIVERS SPEECH AT MOSSADEQ'S GRAVE

LD251833 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Speech by Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar on 25 January at the grave of the late Dr Mohammad Mossadeq--recorded]

[Text] On a day such as this, together with a handful of freedom-seeking people who believed in this great liberal figure of the past 150 years in our history, and who believe in freedom and patriotism, we are gathered together here for our final farewell to this great leader of the nation who fought for 50 years for the interests of the Iranian people. Some of our friends are no longer among us and have passed away. Today, as prime minister and the representative of the Iranian Government and the majority of patriotic and grateful Iranian people, I pay homage and hope that, in accordance with Dr Mossadeq's will, I may be able to carry out his wishes as soon as possible and move him to his eternal grave among the martyrs of 21 July 1953.

The Iranian nation will always remain grateful and faithful to this great leader, who remains the country's father; for whatever we have today in this country and the glory given to Iran and transforming it into an independent country in the world is due to his indefatigable efforts.

Though during his last days he suffered a great deal, he never gave up struggling for his beliefs or abandoned his faith in freedom. We never saw the slightest weakening in his resolve; and at the age of 86, when we attended his funeral, his struggles, his perseverance, his adherence to moral principles and freedom and humanity were for everybody to see.

Today, once again I bow in his presence, and though I have often come here as an individual, today I come here as prime minister and send this message, so that they might know that good and evil will always remain though time passes, that Dr Mossadeq's name will be written in gold and remain eternal in Iranian history.

JUSTICE MINISTRY ABOLISHES SECURITY BUREAU

LD252124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A Justice Ministry spokesman has said that the Security Bureau of the Justice Ministry was abolished today and its employees transferred to various divisions of the Justice Ministry.

TEHRAN MARTIAL LAW OFFICERS ARREST 29 ARMED AFGHANIS

LD251844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Martial law officers of Tehran and district today arrested 29 armed Afghan nationals.

OPPOSING FACTIONS CLASH IN KERMANSHAH, AHVAZ

LD251848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A group of people assembled in Vali'ahd Stadium in Ahvaz this morning in support of the constitution and, after a speech on the constitution and its principles, staged a peaceful march, which ended around noon.

Thousands of Baluchi tribe members today marched in support of the constitution. The group, carrying the Iranian flag, chanted slogans in support of the constitution. At 6 Bahman Square in Zahedan, the group assembled and heard speeches. According to a Tehran evening paper, in these speeches they protested the exodus [khoruj] of Baluchi tribes and announced that the brave and patriotic Baluchi people will never abandon the homeland's fortress.

Similar demonstrations in support of the constitution were also held in Birjand, Kermanshah, Masjed Soleyman and Haftgel.

According to reports, clashes took place between opposing groups in Kermanshah and Ahvaz. In Ahvaz this evening antigovernment demonstrations are reported to have taken place, with demonstrators chanting antigovernment slogans. So far, we have received no reports on these clashes.

GOVERNMENT BANS UNAUTHORIZED MARCHES, DEMONSTRATIONS

LD251755 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Government statement, issued 25 January]

[Text] In accordance with the legal duty which is incumbent upon it with regard to safeguarding the country's security, the government hereby instructs all regions where martial law administration is in force to prevent all demonstrations, rallies and marches which run counter to the provisions of the martial law administration. Therefore, all martial law administrations are dutybound to disperse any rally or march which takes place without obtaining prior permission and to uphold the sanctity of the law. Anyone who infringes and disobeys this instruction will be severely punished by law.

TEHRAN GOVERNOR BANS UNAUTHORIZED MARCHS, RALLIES

LD251800 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Communique No 34 of the Military Governorate of Tehran and District, issued 25 January]

[Text] Esteemed citizens of the capital: According to our information, a number of subversive and opportunist elements have misused the excellent conduct shown by officers of the Military Governorate of Tehran and District and have resorted to a series of harmful demonstrations and activities undermining public order, so much so that they have caused uneasiness to the public and robbed them of their peace of mind.

In carrying out the contents of the government statement and the laws already passed, and in view of the responsibility that is incumbent upon it regarding the regulations on protecting the lives, property and honor of the dear fellow citizens, the Military Governorate of Tehran and District cannot remain indifferent to the destructive and inhuman actions and activities of these self-seeking elements. Rather it deems itself dutybound and committed not to allow a number of irresponsible elements to subject the destiny of the honorable and religious citizens of the capital to their antinational and cowardly ambitions and goals and to endanger their lives. For this reason it informs the public that as of 0500 on 26 January, the martial law provisions pertaining to banning impermissible rallies and demonstrations within the framework of the approved rules of the law will be implemented.

The esteemed citizens of the capital are expected, at this crucial and vital juncture, while paying special attention to the momentous responsibilities of this governorate, not to shrink from any cooperation with officers, to refrain stringently from participating in rallies and not to allow the provocations of foreign-manipulated agents, who have no goal other than to disrupt security and public peace and to undermine order in the daily life of the people, to bring about conditions thereby forcing this governorate to carry out the regulations and its lawful duties.

It is axiomatic that should certain persons intend to hold rallies, demonstrations and marches, they are dutybound to obtain permission from the military governorate beforehand, and should the military governorate, mindful of the circumstances and conditions of the region, deem it expedient, it would make the necessary arrangements.

[Signed] The military governor of Tehran and its district, Lt Gen Mehdi Rahimi.

DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF CONSTITUTION 25 JAN

LD252300 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] A vast group of Tehranis, having obtained permission from the military governorate, held demonstrations today in support of the constitution. Since early this morning the demonstrators, in orderly ranks and carrying pictures of the holy Imam 'Ali--peace be upon him--Iranian flags and national and patriotic slogans in support of the constitution, marched along the streets of Tehran and held an orderly rally in Baharestan Square in front of the National Consultative Assembly. In the square the demonstrations became more compact and, with the people chanting slogans on freedom, independence and the constitution, a number of people and one religious leader spoke about the constitution.

During the march the demonstrators chanted such slogans as God, the Koran, Muhammad: this is the motto of the nation! Silent majority, break your silence! The halting of Iran's economic wheels is tantamount to the bankruptcy of the Iranian nation! Iranians, think of unity! They called on the government of Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar not to leave his barricade and not to leave his lawful position. Passing along the streets the demonstrators shouted: The path of Mossadeq is that of social democratic national unity! Nation, awake as the realm is in danger! Learn from 'Ali the faithfulness of deeds! Our Imam is 'Ali and death to the foreigner and xenophiles! We call the Persian Gulf the Persian Gulf!

The demonstrators then moved toward Tupkhaneh Square [formerly Sepah Square]. During these demonstrations a few small clashes took place involving a small group of opposers. These clashes did not affect the march. Another group tore down the Iranian tricolors which were carred in the various squares. During today's march other marchers from other areas of the city joined the ranks of the main marchers in Baharestan Square.

The marchers then stopped in front of the prime minister's office, where several speakers spoke about the constitution and delcared their support for the government of Dr Bakhtiar. The demonstrators themselves kept their discipline and later continued their march to 24 Esfand Square.

The text of the resolution read and approved by the demonstrators in Baharestan Square is as follows:

We Iranians, bearing in mind the present sensitive and historical circumstances, which have seldom been equaled in the highly tumultuous history of our ancient country, announce our views and demands as follows:

1. Because the auspicious liberation revolution of the Iranian nation has begun, continued, and is now on the verge of victory with the participation, struggle and self-sacrifice of all the classes, strata, political, social and religious groups; and because this sacred revolution could not reach decisive and final victory except with a unity of the hearts and minds and solidarity of the entire Iranian nation; therefore, we consider any monopolizing, seeking to dominate, sowing dissent and imposing the will by any special faction and group as improper, disagreeable and preventing the victory of the revolution, and we strongly denounce and condemn them.

The resolution continued:

2. Because the vigilant and correct leadership of the Iranian nation in its move toward struggle against corruption, oppression, dictatorship, injustice, self-interest and putting an end to foreign interference in the country's affairs in order to bring about a free, developed and independent Iran--because all this necessitates that attaining the goals and the final victory of our much-troubled and plundered nation in this sacred revolution, which is a cause for pride, should be realized with the minimum of material and human losses, we therefore strongly condemn any inappropriate extremism, wrong tactics and half-baked measures which would endanger the present achievements of the revolution and bring about unnecessary material damage and loss of life.

3. Because the constitution and its supplement--this precious and blood-soiled document--has been achieved as a result of the heroic struggles and the self-immolations of the Iranian nation and at the cost of the martyrdom of the dearest sons of this country, thanks to the leadership and help rendered by the illustrious religious authorities; because its foundation has been laid on the basis of the just 12-imam Shi'a faith and the protection and safeguarding of this faith; and because this valuable historic covenant has been recognized as covering the undeniable rights of the Iranian nation and the protection of its sanctity and its prestige is the definite, indisputable duty of every honorable and patriotic Iranian, we therefore deem that closing one's eyes to, committing outrage against, and indifference to the constitution and its supplement, ingratitude for the self-sacrifices and past struggles of the Iranian nation, indifference to the highly valuable services of the religious leaders and the great ayatollahs--whose wise policies and views are reflected in the principles of this sacred law-- and, finally, outrage against the pure blood of the martyrs of constitutionalis, are contrary to patriotism.

4. We expect all our dear compatriots, particularly the illustrious religious leaders who, thanks to their total selflessness, have been and are the standard bearers of the justice-seeking struggle of our oppressed nation, to display complete vigilance and watchfulness in safeguarding and stabilizing the successes and privileges attained so far at the cost of the martyrdom of a number of dear and honorable sisters and brothers and in return for the destruction, losses and extremely heavy blows throughout the country and not under any circumstances to allow, after years of suppression and adversity, a new form of despotism and concentration of power to replace the previous self-interested police government.

We expect all the honorable comrades-in-arms who have forsaken their lives, particularly our religious leaders--who have so far been the pioneers of this historic and epic revolution and the guides of the nation, with their acts of self-sacrifice and moral heroism--to avoid any action which could cause dissension, unnecessary confrontations, the frittering away of energies, growing losses, fruitless bloodshed and which could--God forbid--endanger our country's national unity, territorial integrity and independence.

We expect all our oppressed compatriots, who after years of domination, corruption and suppression are now seeking justice and freedom, and particularly the illustrious religious leaders, who are bearing the standard of this liberation movement, to take a path whereby the attainment of the goal and final victory will be realized through the constitution and by avoiding a civil and fratricidal war and not to give foreigners an excuse to conduct provocations and to interfere and misuse the turbulent situation.

In their reports on the demonstrations today the world news agencies described these demonstrations as the first rally by the moderates in Iran, who are calling for the safeguarding of the constitution. The evening papers, too, report on the demonstrations in support of the constitution, saying the number of the demonstrators reaches 100,000 to 150,000 people.

Resolution Issued

LD261126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] A vast group of Tehranis, having obtained permission from the military governorate, held demonstrations yesterday in support of the constitution. They marched along the streets of Tehran and held an orderly rally in Baharestan Square in front of the National Consultative Assembly. The demonstrators then moved toward Tupkhaneh Square. The marchers then stopped in front of the prime minister's office, where several speakers spoke about the constitution and declared their support for the government of Dr Bakhtiar. The demonstrators themselves kept their discipline and later continued their march to 24 Esfand Square.

During the demonstrations the following resolution was issued: In these sensitive times in the realm, when the national movement is approaching its final victory for the realization of political freedoms and the total liquidation of the foundations of oppression and corruption, the avoidance of confrontations within the nation and of a civil and fratricidal war, which constitute the goals of foreigners for the destruction of the realm and the nation, are tantamount to a national and religious duty incumbent on all the compatriots.

Now, in circumstances in which we, the representatives of the silent majority in society, have risen up in order to guard the national heritage and to safeguard Iran's territorial integrity and independence, we call on patriotic fellow countrymen to join our ranks and thereby place the vast national forces before the judgment of the world. We take oath, so long as we live, to defend the tricolor, the borders and the dear soil of the homeland from the Persian Gulf to the banks of the Aras River and to stand up to and counter with a firm resolve any plot aimed at the reestablishment of suppression, oppression, bullying and the limiting of freedoms under whatever pretext.

Now, as the final message of this grand rally, we announce the following resolution of today's political movement, in the hope that at forthcoming meetings united ranks will result in a great national movement coupled with the cementing of all the social forces:

1. The formation of any political movement with Iran's future in mind and freedom through the constitution.

2. The practice of the motto of the true religion of Islam, while emphasizing our national heritage and achievements, particularly affirming political freedom and equal rights for men and women in all affairs.

3. The resumption of the economic life of our country and the ending of strikes before the total destruction of the realm.

4. The maintenance of respect for fundamental values, the army, the police and the gendarmerie.

5. The trial and swift punishment of those accused of corruption.

6. The condemnation of the cult of personality and the emphasis of freedom of speech and movement for all the realm's political groups under all conditions.

7. The safeguarding of and full respect for the rights of our compatriots from the religious minorities, in accordance with the clear articles of the constitution.

26 JAN MARCH IN SUPPORT OF CONSTITUTION CANCELED

LD260825 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Following the issuance of the government statement prohibiting any meetings, the Cooperative Party of Iran [Hezb-e Ta'avon-e Iran], telephoned this station last night and said that the march which was to take place today, Friday, by the supporters of the constitution, will not take place.

GROUPS GATHER TO WELCOME KHOMEYNI DESPITE POSTPONEMENT

LD261114 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Although it was decidedly announced yesterday that His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni's homecoming had been postponed till next Sunday and despite the fact that the committee organizing the welcoming ceremony announced that the carrying out of the welcoming ceremonies had been postponed to a later date because of the closing of the country's airports, this morning groups of people met on the avenues leading to Mehrabad Airport and to Behesht Zahra with the aim of welcoming His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Quoting Engineer Bazargan, REUTER reported that His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni contacted Tehran from Paris by telephone this morning and sent a message addressed to the welcomers. His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni's message, read for the benefit of those meeting in Behesht Zahra, while thanking the welcomers, said that because of the closure of airports his homecoming had been postponed till this coming Sunday.

Our correspondents' dispatches from various parts of Tehran indicate that the Military Governorate of Tehran and District, on the basis of its communiques yesterday and last night, has gone into action in order to disperse the demonstrators and that there have been clashes. We will inform you of the details of the demonstrations in Tehran separately.

TEHRAN MILITARY GOVERNOR DENIES CLASHES VIOLENT

LD261156 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Dear listeners: We have received many telephone calls today regarding clashes between demonstrators and security forces in Tehran. These have been strongly denied by the Military Governorate of Tehran and District.

Here is our correspondent's interview with Lieutenant General Rahimi, who is the military governor of Tehran and district: [begin recording]

[Station correspondent] Could I first ask you, as the military governor of Tehran, to provide us with some explanations regarding rumors about the arrival in Tehran of His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni?

[Rahimi] As far as I know--and I am confident about this--His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni has definitely not arrived in Tehran. I have also been told about street rumors regarding his arrival, but he has certainly not arrived.

[Question] There have been demonstrations in Tehran today and rumors regarding clashes between demonstrators and the security forces. Could you elaborate on this as well?

[Answer] It is true. Unfortunately, we have had demonstrations in the city. The same groups which we have often reported and informed the public of in various communiques--those who intend to disrupt the social order--have, unfortunately, held demonstrations again today. Fortunately, our officers confronted them with the utmost patience, forebearance and tolerance, and dispersed them. Fortunately, I can say we have had no clashes of a violent nature whatsoever. However, there have been scattered demonstrations across the city, but security officers confronted those involved and dispersed them. In all these confrontations we have been doing our utmost to insure that they have been and are peacefully handled--but with strength, of course. What has been done has only been aimed at dispersing the crowds by means of water cannons, tear gas, and perhaps one or two instances of shooting into the air. But there has been no action that has led to bloodshed. [end recording]

AFP Report

TA261021 Paris AFP in English 1011 GMT 26 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Jan 26 (AF)--At least three people were killed and several dozen wounded here this morning, witnesses said, as 10,000 students clashed with Iranian troops. The students were defying the martial law ban on demonstrations, which was reimposed today after being lifted early last month. The move followed the closing of airports yesterday to bar the return from France of opposition leader Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Soldiers fired into the air to disperse small groups of students shouting "Long live Khomeyni" and "Bakhtiar (Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar) is a traitor." The students scattered but soon reassembled elsewhere in the university neighbourhood heavily guarded by troops.

Big demonstrations backing the exiled Muslim leader Ayatollah Khomeyni were also taking place in other parts of the capital. Tens of thousands gathered by the huge Shayyad Monument to the monarchy near the closed airport. They chanted, "If Khomeyni does not come back, we shall kill Bakhtiar."

Supporters of the shah armed with clubs were starting to attack pro-Khomeyni demonstrators in various parts of the city.

Tens of thousands of his backers also assembled in the poor people's cemetery south of the city.

AFP: 10 Killed

TA261227 Paris AFP in English 1225 GMT 26 Jan 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Jan 26 (AFP)--Ten people were killed in clashes between 10,000 Iranian students and troops here today, hospital sources reported. About 30 people had been wounded.

After five and one half hours, small groups of students still faced soldiers, who were firing into the air to disperse them. Rioting started at 10 a.m. when students began demonstrating to demand the return of opposition chief Ruhollah Khomeyni.

BBC Correspondent's Report

LD261338 London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 1245 GMT 26 Jan 79 LD

[Text] New clashes in Iran. Troops are reported to have killed at least 15 demonstrators. The fighting broke out in Tehran this morning as tension rose over the delayed return of the Muslim leader, the Ayatollah Khomeyni. There are also reports of fighting between troops and demonstrators in other cities. The main clash appears to have been in the university area of Tehran. Some reports put the death toll as high as 25. The military authorities, however, deny that there have been any casualties. But firing could be clearly heard.

[Simon Dring, BBC correspondent--begin recording] The shooting began shortly after 10 o'clock when the army tried to break up a large and noisy crowd outside the city's main university. At least five people were killed in the first incident and as the news spread, the crowd grew increasingly hysterical. "Look at the blood, look at the blood," they shouted, waving clothing torn from the bodies of the dead. Branches were ripped off the trees, and screaming "Death to Prime Minister Bakhtiar," the demonstrators advanced on the troops strung out across the road. We were drapped in a doorway as the soldiers began once again to shoot. Most of it was in the air, but marksmen were picking out the ringleaders with deadly accuracy. One man was killed next to us and three or more across the street. [end recording]

Earlier, troops of the Imperial Iranian Army--soldiers sworn to defend the throne of the shah--staged a display of their military strength for the world's newsmen. A general said it was a timely reminder that the army was still a force to be reckoned with as the religious leader, the Ayatollah Khomeyni, prepared to fly to Iran. According to the general, the troops were ready to deal with any sort of civilian disturbance. He said they were prepared to lay down their lives for the shah.

TEHRAN GOVERNOR'S COMMUNIQUE ON ARREST OF JOURNALISTS

LD261126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jan 79 LD

[Text] We have received information today that a number of journalists have been arrested in accordance with Article 5 of the martial law administration. In this connection the Military Governorate of Tehran and District has issued a communique, which states:

A number of journalists have recently been arrested and handed over to the competent authorities which will investigate their cases in accordance with the laws and regulations of the martial law administration and in fulfillment of the communiques already issued. In view of the fact that the arrest of these journalists has created misunderstandings and disputes, the Military Governorate of Tehran and District perforce reiterates that the arrest of these journalists has nothing to do with the press, but rather their guilt is of a security nature and has been the result of undermining order and noncompliance with the regulations; and that in accordance with Article 5 the order for their arrest have been issued.

Foreign news agencies put the number of those arrested between three and six persons, but the responsible authorities have not yet announced the definite number of those arrested or their names.

TEHRAN REPORTS BAKHTIAR'S LETTER TO KHOMEYNI

LD251344 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] Dear listeners: As he announced during his speech in the National Consultative Assembly and in an interview with the Voice of Iran yesterday, the prime minister has sent a letter to His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni. The text of this letter, which we received today, is as follows:

To the blessed presence of His Great Eminence the Ayatollah Seyyed Ruhollah Khomeyni: After humbly offering salaams and presenting my respects to your great religious leader's sacred presence, a leader who by the grace of God has been endowed with the virtue of crusading along the path of justice, I beg permission to bring to your honorable attention a few noteworthy points--of interest to the illustrious Muslim leader that you are. With the succor of great God, I hope to be able to state with clarity what is incumbent upon me as a struggling Muslim Iranian, lest I should be covered in shame before the justice-worshipping and truth-seeking slaves of the Almighty--shame that would result from a vacillation in speaking the truth.

1. Your great eminence is aware that this government's program from top to bottom, part and parcel, consists of important features which have been of interest to your sacred presence during the many long years of the era of fear, intimidation, and suppression, and also of interest to the other strugglers and martyrs who have pursued the path of right and freedom; that as soon as I took over the office of prime minister--putting my trust in almighty God--I immediately began, with the utmost enthusiasm and sincerity, to carry out the government's program. There is no doubt whatsoever that should a reasonable chance be granted me--by the will of almighty God--I will manfully and sincerely implement all the minutiae of this program in order to safeguard the just rights of the struggling Muslim nation of Iran, showing reverence for the pure souls of those martyrs who have fallen on the parth of liberty, and, by virtue of my 25 years' experience of political struggles, safeguard the preservation of the independence and territorial integrity of my homeland.

This matter, of course, depends on success granted by God. I cherish the hope that along this path I shall be fortunate enough to be accorded the blessings of the divine attentions of your eminence and the munificent prayers of the benevolent people of this land and soil.

2. Although paying a pilgrimage to your illustrious religious leader's presence is a happiness which I cherish, as do a great many sons of Iran who support Iran's freedom and independence and who are imbued with the traditions of Islam in paying homage to the position of the great ayatollahs and learned ulemas, I beg permission to inform you that in my humble opinion, in the present circumstances, thanks to multifarious instigations and the state of mutiny which exists in progovernment and antigovernment groups, the return back to Iran of your esteemed presence would give rise to exacerbations and disturbances which would prevent the government from continuing with its program--which has been unanimously approved by all of Iran's God-worshipping freedom-seekers. Therefore, I beg you to be gracious and to listen and consent to the request of yours devotedly to postpone your departure for Iran.

3. Should you, after your auspicious homecoming, graciously embark on announcing a political organization which would not tally with the present constitution, you would most certainly place the government in an extremely difficult and dangerous position--the consequences of which your humble servant would not wish to accept responsibility for.

4. In view of the position of your humble servant, the dictates of your sagacious knowledge, and the sincere and munificent intention which you have harbored and continue to harbor for the happiness of the Iranian nation, I cherish the hope that you will graciously permit any change in the realm's system to be carried out through the path of reconciliation, peace and tranquillity, in accordance with those democratic traditions accepted throughout the world, lest--God forbid--we should be beset with a worse tragedy and a more horrendous scourge after the quarter of a century overlordship by self-interest, absolute bestiality, and general and all-engulfing corruption--to my spiritual impoverishment and the dashing of my hard labor and toil.

Your great eminence and ayatollah, from God learn the difference between friend and foe, as the hearts of both lie in His mighty hand.

It is by virtue of this profound faith that I cherish the hope that the illustrious leader that you are will also, at this momentous juncture, be inspired by God, so that despite the present circumstances my sincerity and faithfulness to the path of right and freedom will become clear to your holy person, and that you may rest positively assured that this request is made purely in order to avoid consequences which, should they come about, would not bring about--for me, too--anything save the utmost regret. The mourning and grief which would then descend on our hearts thanks to those events would bring sadness and mourning to all the strugglers along the path of right and freedom and would forever pain the pure souls of those martyrs who have pursued the path of freedom.

Peace be upon him who pursues the path of salvation.

[Signed] Your devoted servant, Shahpur Bakhtiar.

PARIS REPORTER INFORMS BAKHTIAR OF KHOMEYNI DECISION

LD251256 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] Our reporter Jean-Marie Lefevre telephoned the prime minister, Dr Bakhtiar, a few minutes ago and was the first to inform him of the postponement [of Khomeyni's departure for Iran]. [begin recording]

[Bakhtiar] Is this report then concerning the postponement of the ayatollah's journey quite certain?

[Lefevre] Absolutely certain, Mr Prime Minister. It has just been officially announced by the ayatollah's spokesman at Neauphle-le-Chateau. The postponement is for 3 days.

[Bakhtiar] How many days did you say?

[Lefevre] Three days, Mr Prime Minister.

[Bakhtiar] So it has been postponed by 3 days. This is a good piece of news. So evidently everything changes now.

[Lefevre] Could you analyze for us the latest events.

[Bakhtiar] Well, I asked Monsieur [as heard] Khomeyni to postpone his journey by a few days and I also explained to him the reasons. Many things have changed. The silent majority demonstrated today in the hundreds of thousands.

[Lefevre] Mr Prime Minister, will Ayatollah Khomeyni be able to land in Tehran next Sunday?

[Bakhtiar] In principle he can always land. Within the framework of the constitution he is given every possible concession, but only within the framework of the constitution.

[Lefevre] Are you in favor of the abolition of the monarchy?

[Bakhtiar] Listen to me: It is not for me to decide on this, it is not for Monsieur Khomeyni or me to decide on this.

[Lefevre] As you heard Bakhtiar say, repeating what he has been saying ever since he has been prime minister of Iran: Everything is possible for the ayatollah but only within the framework of the constitution, which means therefore through the parliamentary assemblies or through the people if they agree by a vote, but nothing is going to be achieved by a revolutionary committee, whatever it may be.

An important event took place in Tehran his morning. Even before the news had been heard that the ayatollah had postponed his departure for 3 days, many tens of thousands of demonstrators supporting the prime minister marched through the streets shouting the slogan: Bakhtiar remain in office, do not hand over to Khomeyni! It is the first time the so-called silent majority has gone into the streets and come out of its silence. [end recording]

TEHRAN REPORTS KHOMEYNI DELAYS RETURN TO IRAN

LD251748 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] While various groups of people had been preparing themselves in a mammoth way in the past few days to welcome His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, following 24 hours of procrastination and conflicting reports it was eventually announced this afternoon that his return to the homeland has been postponed at least until next Sunday.

Previously, arrangements had been made for the ayatollah to leave Paris around midnight tonight for Tehran and arrive here early tomorrow morning. Meanwhile, it was announced that Iran's airports would be closed until midnight Saturday. It was also reported from Paris that His Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni might spend the night in Greece on his way to Iran.

Early this afternoon, the text of Prime Minister Bakhtiar's letter, sent to His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni 2 days ago, was sent to us. In the letter, the prime minister asks the ayatollah to postpone his return to Iran. This evening, quoting a source close to the Ayatollah Khomeyni, news agencies reported that his return to Iran has been postponed until next Sunday. Consequently, it is definite that his eminence's return to the homeland will be postponed at least until next Sunday.

MAJLIS SPEAKER INTERVIEWED ON KHOMEYNI'S RETURN

LD252208 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Telephone interview with Majlis Speaker Dr Javad Sa'id 25 January--recorded]

[Text] Dr Javad Sa'id, speaker of the Majlis, answered some questions put to him by our correspondent in a telephone interview.

In answer to a question about the return to the country of His Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni, Dr Sa'id said: [begin recording]

[Sa'id] To start with, I must say that the return to Iran of His Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni, after years of being away from the homeland, will be a source of great pleasure. There is no doubt that arrangements must be made to avoid any agitation, clashes and unrest. However, with regard to your question about my contact with the Ayatollah Khomeyni, I must answer "no".

[Question] Dr Sa'id, has there been any attempt by the government to negotiate with His Eminence the Ayatollah Khomeyni?

[Answer] With regard to negotiations with the ayatollah, as far as I am concerned certain steps have been taken both by the government and social figures. I should also point out that the Majlis hopes that these attempts might bear fruit. I would also like to add that the government must continue its attempt to find a solution to rescue the country from its present impasse. [end recording]

AFP: YAZDI SAYS DELAY IS BAKHTIAR 'PLOT'

TA251322 Paris AFP in English 1306 GMT 25 Jan 79 TA

[Excerpts] Neauphle-le-Chateau, France, Jan 25 (AFP)--Exiled Iranian opposition leader Ruhollah Khomeyni has delayed his return home until Sunday because of what an aide today called "a plot" fomented by Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar.

Dr Yazdi told a press conference in this small town west of Paris that the French airline Air France informed the ayatollah it could not fly him back to Iran as long as airports there were shut down by the army.

Several dozen Iranians present at the ayatollah's temporary residence here reacted to the delay by chanting: "Bakhtiar traitor, Bakhtiar vampire" and "Bakhtiar valet of imperialism."

Dr Yazdi accused the premier of "plotting" to bring back tyranny: "The Bakhtiar government, which until now had not declared itself totally opposed to the ayatollah's return, has just shown that the roots of the monarchy have not been eliminated in Iran." Ayatollah Khomeyni's return will eliminate any possibility of reestablishing the shah's regime, Dr Yazdi forecast.

He accused the army of invading the offices of the committee making arrangements to welcome Ayatollah Khomeyni home, breaking their equipment and arresting several of them.

The Ayatollah's return might be postponed again if airports remain closed on Sundary but he was determined to go back. The spokesman said: "The days of the Bakhtiar government are counted, and the ayatollah will not return clandestinely."

PARIS: KHOMEYNI CONFIRMS INTENTION TO RETURN TO IRAN

LD251420 Paris Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpts] At noon today, Ayatollah Khomeyni stated that he will return to his country when Tehran Airport opens even if his life is at stake. He was asked this morning if he is considering waging a holy war against the Bakhtiar government: He answered that there is no question of this for the time being, but if the use of force is necessary he will order it. Not long ago, 500 of the religious leaders' supporters demonstrated in the streets of Neauphle-le-Chateau.

PARIS: KHOMEYNI TO DEPART FOR IRAN 28 JANUARY

LD252054 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 15 Jan 79 LD

[Excerpt] In the duel going on between Shahpur Bakhtiar and Ayatollah Khomeyni, the Iranian prime minister has just scored a point. With Tehran Airport still closed by the army and Air France, understandably, refusing to let an aircraft take off with no guarantee that it can land, the ayatollah has had to postpone his departure. His spokesman explained why to (?Alain Chalvron):

[Unidentified spokesman--begin recording] Air France has officially informed us that the illegal Bakhtiar government has sent a message to every airline in the world saying that all Iranian airports will be closed for 72 hours. The decision of the ayatollah, therefore, is to leave as soon as the airports are reopened -- in other words, on Sunday. The matter will be renegotiated with Air France. A comment on this: Bakhtiar has announced several times that he is ready to welcome the ayatollah to reassure the population that there is not total opposition to him. In fact, the ayatollah's decision to leave in order to keep his 15-year-old rendezvous with the Iranian people (?seals the fate of) Bakhtiar and his military allies. They are now faced with a fait accompli, and they have shown that the continuation of the shah's regime and the roots of the monarchy have not been eliminated.

PLO ENVOY CONVEYS 'ARAFAT MESSAGE TO KHOMEYNI

LD251624 Paris Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 25 Jan 79 LD

[Text] At Neauphle-le-Chateau, PLO representative in France Ibrahim Sussi was received early this afternoon by the Ayatollah Khomeyni at his residence. Ibrahim Sussi arrived from Damascus with a message of support for the Ayatollah from Yasir 'Arafat and the Palestine National Council, which met recently.

BAZARGAN GIVES VIEWS ON MEANING OF 'ISLAMIC REPUBLIC'

ID260943 Paris LE FIGARO in French 24 Jan 79 p 4 ID

[Theirry Desjardins Tehran report: "Iran--11,000 'Immortal' Guardsmen Ready To Lay Down Their Lives to Save the Constitution"]

[Excerpts] Medina as Model

We had just enough time to rush to Mehdi Bazargan's press conference. This former professor of thermodynamics, who was one of Mossadeq's main supporters in 1953 and later became familiar with the shah's prisons, is now one of the people who hold a key to the crisis.

First, we asked him what is meant by an Islamic republic, now undoubtedly a question of major importance. His answer is bound to cause concern. "So far," he stated "no definitive document has been approved either by the general public or by the religious leaders. Neither, Libya, nor Saudi Arabia nor the United Arab Emirates has a constitution consistent with Shi'ism. In fact, we will only accept as a model the doctrine which was implemented by Muhammad in Medina for 10 years and by Ali for 5 years. No other doctrine is acceptable." This is as clear as it is frightening.

Let us recall that in Medina the Prophet had only a few handfuls of the faithful around him. He established a government which provided for permanent consultation, a kind of direct and continual democracy at a minor sect level. It is difficult to imagine now that a country with 36 million inhabitants confronted with all problems of development could be ruled in this way. What happened in Medina happened 13 centuries ago, in the middle of a desert and in the mists of time. Furthermore, the Prophet was there.

Mehdi Bazargan went on to give us more information, "The Bakhtiar government is completely illegal," he stated. "It must resign. If it does not it will have to use the army--if it can, that is, because the soldiers are on the people's side. However, I have known Bakhtiar for 32 years. He is a patriot. Unless he has changed, he will act in accordance with the will of the people and join the revolution. In any case, we have already established friendly and unofficial contacts with him."

What course will events take? According to Bazargan, there will be no problem since "the council of the revolution, which will be appointed by the ayatollah on Friday or Saturday, will in turn appoint a provisional government. This government will have two tasks--organizing a referendum to ask the people if they accept an Islamic democratic republic and, later, organizing elections to a constituent assembly which will adopt a new constitution." Who will submit the draft constitution? "Either the council of the revolution or that assembly's commissions."

Bazargan is probably better acquainted with the ayatollah's plans than anyone else in Tehran. The fact that he referred to the Medina "constitution" is in itself disturbing, but the fact that he imagines that the army will not move is even more alarming.

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN ON COUP, KHOMEYNI, ASSEMBLIES

TA252200 [Editorial Report TA] National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Persian to Iran at 1800 GMT on 25 January carries three commentaries on the revolution in Iran. The first commentary warns that world imperialism has already taken its first steps toward the establishment of "a terrorist, military government in Iran." The unidentified commentator then draws the attention of the people to rumors that the royalist soldiers are ready to undertake a coup "with the support of the representatives of the American espionage organizations present in Iran." As an example of the preparations being made for the coup, the commentator points out that "all the airports of Iran" have been closed in order to prevent the return of His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni.

In a later part of this commentary, while apparently discussing the demonstrations in support of the regime, the commentator observes that the object is to disrupt the legitimate demonstrations of the people "and not allow them to march in the streets against the royalty and against domestic and foreign reaction." He continues: "News stemming from innumerable incidents testifies to the fact that the senior echelons of the army have succeeded in fulfilling their objectives, and the representatives of the American central espionage organization have achieved their (?purposes) since they have prevented the return of His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni and the government is entirely in the hands of (?the prime minister)."

The second commentary assures the people that the revolution of the Iranian nation against the despotic regime is continuing and growing day by day as more people join the demonstrations. It then notes that the participation of "the religious leaders and all the patriotic national forces" in the struggle will insure the early destruction of the regime, "the resignation of the Regency Council, the resignations of the members of the two houses" of parliament, the resignation of the Bakhtiar government "and the formation of a constituent assembly."

The commentator goes on to say: His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni has declared that the unprecedented demonstrations on Husayn's 40th day constitute a referendum, and that he will act in accordance with the desires of the people. "The people want the establishment of a republic in the country." His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni has asked for the resignations of the members of parliament and of the Regency Council. "This request of the leader of the world's Shi'a and of our country as well cannot go unanswered. A number of members of the Majlis have already resigned from their positions" and, despite the efforts of Bakhtiar, some of the Regency Council members have resigned as well.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni has said that he will be returning to Iran next Friday after his long exile, and the people are busy preparing a glorious celebration for his arrival. The Bakhtiar government, however, by surrounding the airports--in conformity with the orders of the CIA and the Pentagon--has for all practical purposes prevented the return of the ayatollah. Ayatollah Khomeyni has announced that upon his return, he will name the members of the new government. "Among the duties of this new government will be the carrying out of free elections to the Majlis and, preceding that, to the constitutent assembly in order to set the course for the future [word indistinct] of Iran." The Bakhtiar government is, however, standing in the way of the desires of our nation.

The third and final commentary is devoted to the necessity of giving structure to the revolution through the formation of "revolutionary assemblies and councils" [shuraha va anjomanha-ye enqelabi]. The commentator says: The great demonstrations of the people have proven that they no longer want the weight of the old system around their necks. The people wish to be rid of foreign imperialism and the reactionary royalist regime.

While struggling against the old regime and working to mobilize all sectors and classes of society, it is time to give a more rigid structure to the peoples' struggle, and this reinforcement is to be achieved through the formation of revolutionary assemblies and councils. "Even during the constitutional revolution more than 70 years ago, the people of Iran raised their struggle to a higher level against the royal despotism and the control of imperialism by forming councils [anjomanha], and they were able to centralize the force of all the classes of struggling people into united revolutionary organizations." Assemblies and councils must be formed in all sectors and classes of society--whether among the workers, laborers, villagers, intellectuals, clergy or others. Only with proper organization will the struggling people be able to neutralize the threats and defend the achievements of the revolution.

RADIO OF PATRIOTS ON GENERALS' PLOT, KHOMEYNI RETURN

TA251639 [Editorial Report TA] Radio of the Patriots [Clandestine] in Persian to Iran begins its broadcast at 1615 GMT on 24 January with news reports. The announcer is heard to say: "In these emotional and fateful days our nation is living through, the mercenary and (?greedy) generals are continuing their treacherous plots against the people of Iran in order to (?satisfy)their greed) and on behalf of their runaway 'wearer of the crown'." The announcer then mentions the cities of Ahvaz, Dezful, Najafbad, Reza'iyeh and Kermanshah, where the "treacherous plot against the struggling masses of our country" is unfolding. "Elsewhere, reports indicate that a decision was made today to have a plane take off from Tehran and fly to Paris in order to return His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni to the nation on Friday morning, following 15 years of exile. In order to frustrate the nation, the shah's devoted generals have initiated another (?disgusting) plot: Beginning this morning, they surrounded the Mehrabad Airport with innumerable tanks and, having secured all the runways of the airport, they announced that for an unspecified period the airport would remain closed to all domestic and international flights."

The following news item concerns the occupation of the Iranian Embassy in Paris by "many students and free Iranians living in France" in order to demand the "immediate overthrow of the royalist regime and the establishment of a democratic system in its place." The next subject is an article in the day before yesterday's edition of the INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE discussing military strikes in Bandar Abbas and Hamadan "protesting against American advisers in Iran and requesting the immediate explusion of all foreign advisers." An item by the political commentator of LE MONDE is cited which reportedly discusses the problems involved in the overly close relationship between Iran and the United States.

The next news item deals with demonstrations in Morocco protesting against the shah and comments based on the Washington POST and New York TIMES concerning statements made by Ardeshir Zahedi. The former Iranian ambassador to the United States is quoted as saying that the shah will not go to the United States because the American authorities will not give the shah the "appropriate and necessary reception."

The announcer comments that American officials have no doubt realized that they are backing the wrong side in the Iranian revolution and want to avoid the visit of the shah or any other action which makes it more difficult to protect their interests in the area. The announcer concludes with the comment: "What a foolish thought!"

The final news item is from Hanoi. It explains that the "executive body of the Afro-Asian organization, which held its annual meeting in Hanoi last Saturday," issued a final statement praising the Iranian struggle, condemning imperialism and any kind of foreign intervention.

Following the news, the Radio of the Patriots carries a short commentary entitled "The Effect of Recent Events in Iran on the Dollar and the American Budget." It says the Western world and the world's capitalists have been very disturbed by events in Iran. The ties of the shah's regime with world capitalism, and particularly with American imperialism, are such that the convulsion of the shah's regime has had a direct impact on the American economy. It is not a simple matter for the American industrial cartels to adjust to elimination of the revenues they have enjoyed from Iranian oil.

The commentary illustrates this point with extensive quotations from "the most recent issue" of the Arab-language newspaper AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI, published in Paris. The thrust of the article is apparently that many of the Iranian contracts signed with the West will be cancelled and that this will affect the Americans and the dollar. A long list of military and commercial contracts with various Western nations is cited.

NEWSWEEK INTERVIEW WITH TUDEH PARTY'S KIANURI REPORTED

AU251358 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 24 Jan 79 p 2 AU

[Roundup of statements and reports concerning Iran: "The chief of staff has appealed to the army to support Bakhtiar; increasing tension in Iran; the communist Tudeh Party supports the program on granting democratic rights"]

[Excerpt] In a statement to a NEWSWEEK correspondent, Nuroddin Kianuri, secretary of the Central Committee of the communist (Tudeh) Party of Iran, declared that the Tudeh Party is in support of the national Shi'ite leadership's initiatives aimed at establishing an Islamic republic, convening a constituent national assembly and elaborating a new constitution for Iran. The party comes out for insuring the creation of democracy for the broad masses and using national assets for the good of the people.

Kianuri emphasized that the Communist Party of Iran, which has been forced into illegality since 1949, has been able to survive and operate despite the merciless oppressive acts of the notorious secret police, SAVAK.

"We are prepared to cooperate with the political forces," the Tudeh leader stressed, "which demand a termination of U.S. imperialism's intervention in Iran and the costly weapons purchases. We are not against cooperation with national bourgeois circles that are not directly connected with imperialist monopolies."

AFGHANISTAN

EXILES REPORT RUSSIAN OFFICERS KILLED BY INSURGENTS

LD251215 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 25 Jan 79 p 5 LD

[Bruce Loudon report: "Five Russian Officers 'Killed by Rebels in Afghanistan'"]

[Text] Rawalpindi--Russian combat troops were reported for the first time yesterday to have gone into action with Afghan regulars fighting to put down an anti-communist rebellion among Muslim tribesmen in the east of the mountain republic.

Afghan exiles said five Russian officers, "believed to be military advisers," were killed by insurgents in Kunnar Province, which borders Pakistan.

A communique issued by the exiles claimed the Russians died while firing mortars on behalf of Afghan regulars from a hill.

If correct, this is the first indication of direct Russian involvement in the increasingly fierce battle between Muslim insurgents and forces loyal to the pro-Moscow regime of President Taraki in Kabul.

Russian involvement in attempts to put down the growing rebellion in eastern Afghanstan would add a new dimension to the fighting, and suggest to most informed observers that Afghan forces on their own may have found the fighting too much.

Reports in the past few weeks have suggested that guerrilla strikes have been carried out close to Jalalabad, Afghanistan's second city.

The increased insurgency followed an order from Taraki that Marxist jargon should be read at mosques during "junta" prayers on Fridays, the holy day of the Muslim week.

Muslim mullahs are leading the anti-communist insurgency and exiles say Russian-supplied aircraft of the Afghan Air Force have carried out bomb and rocket attacks on mosques in areas known to be insurgent strongholds. Several mullahs have been reported killed.

Kabul Radio has denied reports of the fighting, attributing them to the imagination of Western correspondents.

INDIA

FOUR NEW MINISTERS OF STATE APPOINTED

BK260914 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Jan 79 BK

[Text] The president, Mr Neelam Sanjiva Reddy, has appointed Mr Ram Kinkar as minister of state in the Ministry of Works, Housing, Supply and Rehabilitation; Mr Nar Singh as minister of state in the Ministry of Petroleum, Chemicals and Fertilizers; Mr Jagbir Singh as minister of state in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting; and Mr Janewshwar Misra as minister of state in the Ministry of Energy. They are being sworn in this afternoon. The appointments have been made on the advice of the prime minister.

INDIAN NAXALITES REUNIFYING TO OPPOSE USSR

BK251659 Hong Kong AFP in English 1455 GMT 25 Jan 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 25 (AFP)--The recent Kampuchean developments have helped various Naxalite factions in India close their ranks and come together, it has been claimed.

The pro-Peking extremist communists, splintered into more than half a dozen factions, have reportedly taken a common stand accusing the Soviet Union of "invading" Kampuchea.

"Cambodia has brought us all together," a spokesman of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (CPI-ML), was quoted as having said in Calcutta on Wednesday [24 January] in a report carried in the Calcutta STATESMAN today. The CPI-ML is the largest of the extremist factions.

The report said that representatives of the various extremist groups had a joint meeting in Calcutta last week, for the first time after they [word indistinct] underground and were released from prison during the last year at the instance of the present Janata government of Prime Minister Morarji Desai.

The occasion was to discuss a proposed protest demonstration, which they held since, before the Soviet Consulate there against the "invasion" of Cambodia.

The spokesman was also reported to have said that "what could not be achieved all these months, suddenly became possible in a day."

One of the main differences holding apart the extremist factions has been over the correctness or otherwise of the policy of "individual annihilation" followed by some of them, mostly those accepting the Lin Biao [Lin Piao] line.

The recent Calcutta meeting was, however, attended by representatives of both pro and anti-Lin Biao factions.

CURFEW IMPOSED IN PONDICHERRY FOLLOWING VIOLENCE

BK260851 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Jan 79 BK

[Text] In Pondicherry, curfew was imposed from 1100 today to 0600 tomorrow. This follows incidents of violence in connection with the antimerger agitation. A number of persons have also been taken into custody.

PAKISTAN

MALAYSIA'S HUSSEIN HOLDS TALKS WITH ZIAUL HAQ

BK251735 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 Jan 79 BK

[Text] This afternoon, the Malaysian prime minister, Datuk Hussein bin Onn, and President Mohammad Ziaul Haq held formal talks. The talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere reflecting the close relations existing between the two Muslim states. They exchanged views on the geopolitical developments in the region as well as the international situation. They also discussed ways of further strengthening bilateral cooperation in the economic, cultural and other fields.

The Malaysian prime minister was assisted by his foreign minister, Prince Ahmad Rithauddeen; the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, Mr (Tan Sri Jaki Abdul Haji Mohammad Ali); the Malaysian ambassador to Pakistan, Mr Ismail Bin Budin; and senior officials of the Malaysian Government. On the Pakistan side, the president was assisted by the commerce minister, Mian Zahid Sarfraz; the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi; the foreign secretary, the secretary for economic affairs, and other high officials.

A cultural agreement will be signed between the two countries tomorrow.

Earlier, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and the Malaysian prime minister, Datuk Hussein bin Onn, had an informal round of talks during which matters of common interest were discussed. Soon after the arrival of the Malaysian prime minister this morning, Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq called on him at the guest house and remained with him for some time.

Haq, Hussein Banquet Speeches

BK260636 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0500 GMT 26 Jan 79 BK

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Hussein bin Onn have expressed their determination to further strengthen relations between Pakistan and Malaysia. They were speaking at a banquet given by the president in honor of the Malaysian prime minister in Rawalpindi last night.

The president said their talks will prove useful and fruitful. He expressed the hope that under the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Hussein bin Onn the two countries would come still closer.

Referring to Malaysia's role in consolidating Islamic solidarity, the president said Pakistan was doing its utmost for the promotion of Islamic brotherhood.

The president said that the foremost problem confronting the Muslim world is that of ideological [word indistinct]. He said various measures are being taken to introduce Islamic order in Pakistan.

He said that both Kashmir and Palestine were common issues of the Muslim world. The president also stressed total cooperation among Muslim states in industrial and economic fields.

Welcoming the Malaysian proposal to declare Southeast Asia a zone of peace free from big power rivalry, the president said South Asia and Southeast Asia should be free from all sorts of subversive activity so that the backward states of the region could utilize their resources for their own progress.

The president said ASEAN had immensely helped in laying the basic structure of regional cooperation. It was a matter of joy to Pakistan as such a role was in accordance with Pakistan's objectives.

The Malaysian prime minister expressed the hope that his discussions with President Ziaul Haq would prove beneficial and that relations between the two countries would be further strengthened. Datuk Hussein bin Onn said the cultural agreement signed this morning would be followed by an economic and technical cooperation agreement.

He said both Pakistan and Malaysia desired peace and stability, and both countries are concerned with the recent happenings in their areas. He hoped that the withdrawal of foreign forces from a country of Asia would be conducive to peace in the region.

He said Malaysia fully supported Pakistan's proposal to declare South Asia a nuclear weapon-free zone. He mentioned President General Ziaul Haq's role in the liberation of Malaya during the Second World War and hoped that President Ziaul Haw would visit Malaysia as a brother.

THIRD VOLUME OF WHITE PAPER ON BHUTTO GOVERNMENT RELEASED

BK251055 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 25 Jan 79 BK

[Text] The federal government today released another volume of the white paper dealing with the performance of the Bhutto regime. This volume describes the economic policies pursued by the Bhutto government, their consequences for the state's agricultural, commercial and industrial development, and their effects upon the people's standard of living.

The volume comprises six chapters. The first chapter deals with the economic policy and practice and describes the economy of Pakistan as virtually on the verge of collapse by the time the Bhutto government was ousted in July 1977.

The second chapter, which deals with agrarian policy, brings out the factors which led to stagnation in agricultural production.

The third chapter covers industries. It shows how industries considered to be of basic importance to the economy were taken over and how that badly affected the whole sector.

The fourth chapter deals with the monetary and fiscal policies. It brings out the lack of economic discipline in these policies leading to disastrous results.

The fifth chapter deals with nationalization of banking, while the sixth chapter relates to ports and shipping and mismanagement in this sector.

The white paper says: The mere collapse of the economy by June 1977 was the inevitable consequence of the deliberate policies pursued by the Bhutto government. It was the culmination of a process which destroyed the established economic institution with little attempt to first create a viable coherent alternative system, shattered confidence of all those engaged in constructive economic activities and relied on ad hoc decisionmaking that suited immediate political goals in utter disregard of the long-term economic consequences. Financial and economic discipline was eroded and waste of resources was rampant. Planning was at a discount. Political considerations rather than economic merit of projects dominated the selection criteria. The guiding principle was to use national resources for political bribery and consolidation of political control of the party in power over every aspect of the life of the people.

BRIEFS

SAUDI LOAN TO PAKISTAN--Islamabad, Jan 24 (AFP)--Saudi Arabia has agreed to lend $92 million to Pakistan for a thermal power project near Karachi. PAKISTAN NEWS AGENCY reported today. The Saudi fund for development will provide the loan, described as the largest single loan by Saudi Arabia to Pakistan for a project. [Excerpt] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1527 GMT 24 Jan 79 BK]